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Hearth & Altar



Oscar L. Joseph

1875 (Friday)

1875

John
1850



HEARTH AND ALTAR

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HEARTH AND ALTAR

A Book for Family Worship

OSCAR L. JOSEPH

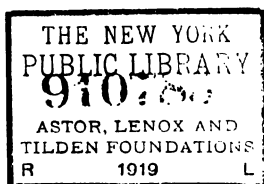


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To
CYRIL

THE LAD OF MY LIFE
IN THE LAND OF LIGHT
WHERE ALL IS LOVE

JANUARY 2, 1915—APRIL 29, 1918

ft of Pub. Week. MAY 27 1919

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The War has made clear that the struggle was between two ideals more than between nations. The outcome is more than a victory: it is an opportunity for the intelligent application of the principles of liberty in every condition of life and among all peoples. The purpose of the untold sacrifice was well expressed by a sergeant, who was going back to his unit after being wounded twice. He had a presentiment that he would not return and he showed his courage by saying: "But I don't mind. It's going to be a better world for the kiddies afterwards." The home was in the heart of this hero, and it was the instinct of the father that led him forward to death, for the sake of the welfare of the rising generation. In every crisis, the father must step into the breach and discharge his high mission.

The home is the best school of character and the center of the finest culture. The contagion of moral and spiritual idealism makes for bright surroundings and healthy pleasures. The atmosphere of religion is an inspiration and a safeguard, whose influence has been beneficial and far-reaching. The absence of it is a most serious loss and a fatal menace, more especially in these days, when we are threatened by atheism in the city, paganism in the country, and materialism everywhere. The conditions of industrial, commercial, and social life are making subtle invasions into the

INTRODUCTION

sanctity of the home. We must see to it that the sacred ties which hold the family together in a complete circle are strengthened by the inner springs, whose source is God.

One of the established means which made family religion fertile and fruitful was the practice of family prayers. This impressive expression of family faith is no longer common nor popular. It does not necessarily follow that religion is not present where the family altar does not exist; but we must acknowledge that the religious life, in all its bearings, receives a greater stimulus where it is honored and used. The altar sanctifies and strengthens the hearth. It helps to cultivate the habits of reverence, dignity, and honor. The public exercises of the sanctuary are more apt to be better sustained by those who observe home worship than by those who neglect it.

Many parents desire to restore or introduce this wholesome practice; but they are doubtless confused as to ways and means. To be sure, it cannot be observed according to traditional ways, nor indeed would it be advisable. Where the father has to take the morning train and the children must hurry to school or the older members go to business, the best time for family prayers is soon after the evening meal, when all the family is generally present. The important question is not how much time should be given to it. The more urgent fact is the spirit of faith and reverence in which it is carried out, and its regular observance throughout the year. Five minutes given to this ennobling exercise, from day to day, will bring

INTRODUCTION

the blessing of heaven on the home and enable parents and children to enjoy the favor of God and the peace divine, which passeth all understanding.

The chapters in this little book are arranged so that the whole family could participate. The Scripture passage at the opening is to be recited in concert. Next comes the portion for the evening followed by the prayer, both to be read by the father, after which all unite in the Lord's Prayer. Provision is also made for special days of the year. Let it be emphasized that the father is the priest of the family and the legitimate leader of family devotions.

This volume was prepared for my own family, and it has worked so well that I am sharing it with others, with the prayer that every home in the land may enjoy in fullest measure the goodness, the grace, and the guidance of the Father, from whom every family is named.

O. L. J.

January 2, 1919.

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In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.—*Philippians 4: 6, 7.*

OUR Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done in earth, as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass
against us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil: for Thine
is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.

Sunday: CONFIDENCE IN GOD

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11: 33, 36.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.—Romans 8: 31-39.

We magnify Thy name, O Lord God, for the many precious promises which have always sustained Thy people in the dark and cloudy days as well as in the bright and happy days. They were able to endure and persevere because they realized Thy presence which gave them courage and steadfastness. They thus rejoiced in all their experi-

GENERAL CONFESSION

*[1st Week
Sunday]*

ences. This testimony to Thy faithfulness has been heard in every generation and continues to our day. We pray for a deepening of our own faith in Thy love and power. May we not measure Thy thoughts by the thumb-rule of our limited experiences; but may we receive a fuller understanding of Thy far-reaching purposes of redemption and be influenced by them to advance towards higher and larger stages of service. Let us be assured that so long as we remain in union with Thee, we are equal to any duty or difficulty. Keep us in the fellowship of divine love, that we may be profitably active in the fellowship of kindred spirits, as we seek to establish and extend the Kingdom of Christ in our own midst and throughout the world. May the day be near when the praises of the blessed Redeemer shall be heard in all the earth. Look on our family with love, and may the blessing we seek for ourselves be also granted to every family, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: THE CHRISTIAN IDEAL

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For him, and through him, and to him, are all things: whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11: 33, 34

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.—Matthew 5: 3-12.

O Lord God, gracious and true, we are aware that Thy thoughts concerning us are for our highest attainments in character. Thou dost desire all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of Thy truth in Jesus Christ. May we learn that real well-being does not consist in material wealth, but in the possession of character. We are glad to know that the most perfect ideal was attained by our blessed Master. If we adopt His spirit, we also can have His attitude of mind and heart toward the heavenly

GENERAL CONFESSION

[1st Week
Monday]

Father and toward all people. We realize that this is the supreme need of our times. We therefore pray that this pattern of life may so impress our mind, quicken our emotions, and impel our will, that we may daily direct our course in accord with it. So shall we find the secret of happiness and be enabled to share it with others. May a similar desire for such exalted devotion be granted to all Thy people. Let them show that all their undertakings are begun, continued, and ended with a determination to honor Thee in all things. May the influence of the Christian home purify and beautify every community, and grant the joy of the Lord to all who love Thee in sincerity and truth, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: FIDELITY TO GOD

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11: 33, 36.

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content.

But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.
—I Timothy 6: 6-16.

Almighty God, we come to Thee in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Saviour. Accept our thanks and gratitude for the mercies which have surrounded and sus-

GENERAL CONFESSION

[1st Week
Tuesday]

tained us this day. In view of what Thou hast been to us, we are confident of the unknown future and we commit ourselves to Thee for the night, for tomorrow, and for all time. May we be zealous to do Thy will. Keep us free from selfishness and bitterness, especially when the struggle seems to go hard against us. May we be firm in our allegiance to Jesus our Master, and, remembering His fidelity in the face of opposition, show a similar spirit. Comfort those who sorrow. Encourage the timid and faint-hearted. Strengthen those who are tempted. Quicken the indifferent and careless to a sense of their obligation. Enrich the labors of the faithful, that they may abound yet more and more in all good works. Guide the leaders of our nation in every walk of life. Grant Thy benediction to all who are in need of special help, and may they and we and all Thy people ever keep true to Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: TOLERANCE AND PRESSURE

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11:33, 36.

And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name: and we forbade him, because he followeth not with us.

And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us.

And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem.

And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead; but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

GENERAL CONFESSION

[1st Week
Wednesday]

And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.—Luke 9: 49-62.

We thank Thee, O Lord, for the companionship of Jesus Christ. We think of him as Saviour, Teacher, and Lord, and our hearts are lifted up. We also think of Him as our Friend, and that brings to mind His sympathy, charity, and compassion, which encourage us in our work. May we always remember that this holy friendship calls for vigilant loyalty and devotion on our part. May we have more of the spirit and mind of Christ, that all our activity may be begun and continued in exact accord with His will. May we daily experience the solace and strength that come from prayer; and let all Thy people know that, through supplication and intercession, great and notable events have always been accomplished. Let the spirit of prayer come upon the whole Church, and may we rejoice in the fellowship of intercession which leads to the practice of deeds of kindness. May we commend Thy grace by our lives of self-control, patience, and eagerness, free from reckless passion, bitter discord, and ignorant conceit. May we engage ourselves in the service of others, in the name of Him who went about doing good, and so prove to be worthy friends of the blessed Jesus.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: ENTHUSIASTIC CHRISTIANS

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11: 33, 36.

Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.—Acts 11: 19-26.

O Lord God, Thou art the hope of all the earth. Men have sought Thee in divers ways, and they have never been left to their own devices, for Thou hast spoken at many times and under different circumstances through prophets and saints. Those who answered when Thou didst call found peace and received strength and were

GENERAL CONFESSION

[1st Week
Thursday

ready for larger revelations of Thy will and for more heroic adventures in Thy name. Thy greatest and richest word has been spoken through Jesus Christ, and the vision of Him has given us pardon, joy, and courage. May we be faithful witnesses of His boundless grace, so that the leaven of the Gospel of redemption may influence, transform, and bless all nations, even to the uttermost part of the earth. Bless the missionary enterprise of the Church. May what has been done be an earnest of the greater performances and achievements in the coming days. As we think of the faithful men and women who labored for the Gospel's sake in former days, and often under discomforts, we pray that we of these later days may advance yet further the triumphs of Christ. May there be a deepening of the devotion, an enriching of the experience, an intensifying of the activities of the Church and a multiplying of results to the greater glory of Thy grace through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: THE GROWING KINGDOM

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11: 33, 36.

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;

And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it?

It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth:

But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.—Mark 4: 26-32.

Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.—Matthew 13: 33.

We bless Thy name, O God, for the quiet influences of Thy Spirit exercised through many agencies, in every age and land. We are often inclined to think of Thy presence only in connection with what we call big events. We are apt to overlook the fact that even in the lesser and smaller affairs of life Thou art graciously present. May we learn not to judge by appearances alone, but be patient to find

GENERAL CONFESSION

[1st Week
Friday]

out the real worth of life. Give us more of the mind of the Master, that we may be confident of the steady growth of truth and the certain conquest of Christ, whose Kingdom is without frontiers. May the power of Christ be more increasingly manifested in the clash of nations, and out of the confusions and desolations of war may there come a better day for all peoples. May we beware of the glamor of mere success and test every achievement by the holiness and goodness of Jesus our Saviour. May the Church know its appointed task in these days of many demands and opportunities, and be faithful in the full discharge of it, for the building up of a bereaved and broken world. Bless our home and every home in all lands for Christ's sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: OUR RESPONSIBILITY

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! . . . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.—Romans 11: 33, 36.

And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.

And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his doctrine,

Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow:

And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up.

And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth:

But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some a hundred.

And he said unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.—Mark 4: 1-9.

Almighty Father, we praise Thee for the goodness and mercy that have been our portion during this week. We are thankful for the benefits of health, the comforts of home, the freedom of country, the liberty of religion, and above all for the assurance that Jesus Christ is our personal Saviour. We pray that the blessings of the Gospel may continue to spread among the sons of men and that all who hear its blessed and bountiful tidings of redemp-

GENERAL CONFESSION

[1st Week
Saturday]

tion and relief may respond thoughtfully, earnestly, and heartily. We pray for the Church and its many activities. May the spirit of worship and the practice of prayer be greatly increased, for thus only can the work of the Church produce really worth-while and beneficial results. Manifest Thy presence wherever Thy people meet tomorrow. Give grace to Thy ministering servants, that the services may be profitable to all the people, making them more devoted and loyal to all the interests of Thy Kingdom in every land. Be with the sick and shut-in, the aged and feeble, and all who are kept away from the sanctuary, and may they find that wherever they are Thou art present, and that to bless. Hasten the day when the nations, from the least to the greatest, will acknowledge the supremacy of Christ and guide their policies according to His will.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: JOYFUL PRAISE

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

O sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.

The Lord hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

Sing unto the Lord with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.

With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King.

Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.—Psalm 98: 1-7.

We thank Thee, O Lord, for the vision of victory and for the actual deeds of the redeemed of every age and clime. What a mighty host of loyal men and women have honored Thee in their lives, who had no regard for comfort where character was in danger. They acknowledged the grace of our Saviour Christ, by whose sacrifice on the Cross they obtained forgiveness of sin and the renewal of life. They always had regard to Him as their Example and Inspiration, and when they were tempted to take counsel with sin they were strengthened to resist evil and to follow the good. May the company of such faith-

PRAISE

**[2d Week
Sunday]**

ful ones increase and may their testimony abound to the honor of Thy grace. Accept our praises for the benefits which we have enjoyed as a family, and teach us to regard losses and sorrows as part of our lot in life, that we may accept them not in a spirit of cowardly complaining but in the spirit of courageous endurance. May Thy presence be realized in every home that is afflicted, and may the assurance of immortality steady the lives that would otherwise be unbalanced by despair. Unite our hearts to fear Thy name in filial reverence and love. May we find contentment and peace in the constant and continuous consolations of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: SINCERE GRATITUDE

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.—Isaiah 12: 1-6.

Thou, O Lord, art a God of majesty and mercy, and we celebrate Thy works of salvation with hearty thanksgiving. Thy deeds of deliverance are manifested throughout the earth, and proofs of Thy gracious dealings are seen on every hand and in every land. Change and uncertainty are the experience of mankind, but Thou art the same in all generations—a Refuge and Strength to those who trust in Thee. When the needy called upon Thee, they were heard, and Thou didst comfort them in misfortune and sorrow. They were hard pressed by adversity; but Thou didst sustain and guide them in the dark and evil days. They

were alarmed and distracted by rumor and report and it seemed as though their future were going to be one of shallows and miseries. Then Thou didst open an unexpected door which brought relief and their later days were better than their former. When so many express gratitude for Thy wondrous providence, we summon courage for ourselves. While we praise Thee for all that has come our way, we also pray that Thy blessing may be given to all troubled and anxious ones, that they may learn to see the silver lining in every cloud. May we receive the pledges of Thy guidance with readiness, and follow the light from morn till eve, and all the time, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: WHAT IS MAN?

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!—Psalm 8: 1-9.

We thank Thee, O blessed God, for Thy consideration of us. For the many tokens of Thy love and goodness, we lift up our hearts in praise to Thee. May our appreciation of Thy benefits be seen in the way we live. Thou hast been found of all who sought Thee and they have celebrated their discoveries by word and deed. Thou didst accept their service, not according to their knowledge of Thy will, but according to the spirit of love shown, as they were faithful to their light. They who ardently aspire after Thee are always acceptable in Thy sight, and we are

glad of this. May we zealously and earnestly exalt Thy name, which reveals the character of Thy holiness and kindness. Since we are privileged with the complete revelation of Thyself in Jesus Christ, may we show forth Thy praises with greater ardor, and may the worship of our lives ever make known the praises of Him who has brought us out of darkness into the joy and satisfaction of his marvellous light. Forgive what is unworthy and inconsistent in our lives, and stir within us the flame of divine love, that our behavior towards God and man may be suggestive of the spirit of our Saviour and Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: HEARTY THANKSGIVING

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. . . .

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone: and the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.—Psalm 103: 1-5, 13-22.

O Thou Redeemer of our lives, we meet at the close of this day to praise Thee, from whom all blessings flow. We would join our hearts in thanksgiving for what we have received at Thy bountiful hands, far exceeding our merit and more than we could number. A steady stream of manifold mercies has flowed towards us up to the present time. These marks of love divine have dispelled the darkness, lightened our burdens, and made clear our ways. As we rejoice to salute the morning of a bright day, so may we be glad that the Sun of righteousness, with healing in His wings, sheds His gracious rays upon our lives. May we remember that Thou art present even when the day of gloom is on us. On such occasions increase our faith, that we may be possessed of calmness of spirit through confidence in Thee. May all who have such faith keep growing strong and not be weary in well doing. May the counsels and comforts of the Gospel receive due regard from us and may we make it our concern to add to our faith virtue, knowledge, self-control, endurance, piety, brotherly kindness, and love and so abound in the riches of Thy grace, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: AN EXULTANT TESTIMONY

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

I will extol thee, my God, O King; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.

And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.

They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.

The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee.

They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;

To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.—Psalm 145: 1-13.

O Lord our God, we wait on Thee in the quiet of this evening hour, and bless Thy name for the help which we have received from Thee in the performance of our vari-

ous duties. We join in the chorus of thanks that continuously comes before the throne of grace from a countless multitude of grateful souls in all parts of the wide world. Thou dost lift up those who fall, and strengthen those who fail, so that their hope is quickened and their courage renewed. All through the years, Thou hast been the Refuge and Guide of succeeding generations. But Thy arm is not yet shortened, nor art Thou weary in imparting wisdom and endurance to us out of the vast storehouse of Thy spiritual riches. Blessed be the Lord God, who is as gracious and generous today as He always has been. We rejoice and are glad that this God is our God, in whom is our trust, and who has enriched and refreshed our lives. When we are tempted to depression, may we be revived by the remembrance of Thy goodness and keep faith, until the cloud has passed and once again we come out into the open sunlight of Thy realized presence. Forgive our misdoings, and may we be more sensitive to the influences of Thy Spirit and more responsive to the appeals of truth and honor, and show ourselves the faithful followers of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: HEART-HAPPINESS

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.—Acts 2: 37-47.

We come to Thee, O gracious God, with true hearts and full assurance of faith, praising Thee through Jesus, the

Christ. In Thy light shall we see light and have clear conceptions of truth, fine perceptions of duty, and strength for the right discharge of responsibility. Just as the Christians of old had gladness of heart because of singleness of life, so may our motives be pure that our lives may be clean and courageous. Deliver us from the mists which belong to the lowlands and lead us to the higher levels where the atmosphere is clear and the vision is lucid. May we rejoice as we come into deeper sympathy with Thy thoughts and purposes. May such an experience be given to all Thy people, so that their influence shall spread abroad the fear of the Lord and many shall seek and find Thee to the joy and rejoicing of their lives. We pray for the native Christians on the mission field, that they may be brave to bear persecution, strong to suffer losses, and patient to withstand opposition. May their lives of purity impress the non-Christians and win them to the Saviour. May all who name Christ see to it that they are sound in the faith and also sound in the happiness of the faith and have a Christian experience that is alluring and convincing, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: A TIMELY EXHORTATION

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 117.

I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.

This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.

The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.

Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.—Psalm 34: 1-14.

We come before Thee, our Father, at the close of another week and celebrate the grace divine which has conferred so many mercies on us. Thy promises have been

our comfort; Thy presence has brought us gladness; Thy peace has renewed and revived our lives. May we increasingly confide in Thee, commune with Thee, and confess Thee from day to day. May we all follow on to know Thee, O Lord, in the intimacies of genuine friendship and in the confidences of holy fellowship. May there be growth in grace accompanied with growth in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray that the Church services tomorrow may become means of grace and of benediction to all who attend. May the preachers proclaim the evangel with certainty of conviction and jubilation of spirit. Let all who hear the preaching turn away from foolishness and frivolity, and follow the bright shining light that leadeth to the new day of fraternity, sympathy, liberty, and opportunity. May the family do its full share to keep all its members in the way of holiness and blessedness. May the home, the school, and the church unite to supplement and complement each other's work, that their cooperation may make glad the City of our God and extend throughout the earth the Kingdom of Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: A DWELLING-PLACE FOR GOD

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
—Matthew 7: 7, 8.

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord:

In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit. . . .

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.—
Ephesians 2: 19-22; 3: 14-21.

O Lord, we come to Thee in the quiet of the evening hour and bless Thee for this day of rest which has brought

refreshment to the hours of leisure and enabled us to profit thereby. May we appreciate the benefits of such a day and not misuse it in thoughtless and fruitless ways. Let us spend the day in such a manner that the whole week may share its benefits. How great is Thy love—so patient, so tender, so considerate, so universal. Thou hast never failed to favor us. From day to day, without any let-up, Thou dost cause Thy sun to rise on the just and the unjust, and Thy forbearance is unlimited. Give us a right understanding of Thy will, that we may be guided by it. Teach us the worth and privilege of prayer, that great means whereby we obtain a sense of Thy near presence and ability for endurance. Increase our faith in Thee as we learn to know more of Thy character revealed in such divers ways through deeds of mercy. We pray for Thy blessing on all whom we met today and on our friends and kindred. May they and we always trust Thee and serve Thee with loyalty and faithfulness. As Thou dost give us of Thy best for our benefit, may we share of our best with those in need, that we may be enriched and may spread abroad the virtues of Thy love in Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: A FRUITFUL LIFE

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
—Matthew 7: 7, 8.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.

If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.
—John 15: 1-11.

We realize, O God, that without Thee we are helpless. We also know that unless we are daily doing Thy will there is no health nor happiness in us. We are further certain that the secret of all real living is in Jesus Christ.

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We pray Thee help us to translate these beliefs into practice. Give us courage to abide in obedience to Thy commandments. Thou art not only the source of our joy, but the fountain of all life and blessedness: And we have learned that every good and perfect gift comes from Thee, with no variation nor shadow made by turning. May we daily find well-being from Thy preciousness and let us be prompt to bear our testimony to the rich provisions of Thy bounty. When profession and practice agree, our prayers will carry weight and we shall be truly enabled to show forth Thy praises. May we not come to Thee only when we are in trouble, as though we regarded Thee as a convenience; but may we live in such intelligent communion with Thee that whether in joy or sorrow we may welcome Thy companionship. Forgive us our neglect and indifference and may we always remain steadfast and secure in Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: THE CLIMATE OF THE HEART

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
—Matthew 7: 7, 8.

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. . . .

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth be-

fore you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.—Isaiah 55: 1-3; 6-13.

We thank Thee, O God, for the omnipotence of Thy grace, so considerate of every condition of life. We are prone to seek for satisfaction in the material things of life and to ignore Thee; but no one has found real happiness in such courses. It is only in Thee that we have peace, and it is as we diligently keep in the path of purity that we are contented and blessed. May we learn Thy thoughts concerning us, so that Thy promises and precepts may direct us in the way of truth and faithfulness. May the joy of Thy salvation uphold us, and the benefits of Thy grace stimulate us for every good word and work. Let us remember that we have not only privileges to enjoy, but also duties to perform. May those who are fortunate realize a responsibility to the sons of misfortune. Look on the world that is recovering from the welter of war. May the nations lay foundations and build according to Thy will, so that there may never again be an outburst of the spirit of the tiger. May the Spirit of Christ govern every life, at home and abroad, and the unity of Christian brotherhood be established in every land.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: INTERCESSION FOR ALL

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.—Matthew 7:7, 8.

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not,) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.—I Timothy 2:1-8.

We bless Thee, O Lord God of life, that in Thy presence there is fulness of joy. Those who find Thee have discovered the secret of happiness and usefulness. Since Thy word is sure and Thy purposes secure, may we commit ourselves to Thee to carry out Thy will in all things. May we understand that true honor does not consist in place or position, but depends on purity of motive and consistency of life, wherever our lot may be cast. The world's

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work is done by a division of labor. Some are called to lead and others to follow; but both are necessary and the results can be profitable only as there is a spirit of mutual confidence and cooperation. We realize the responsibility of the several leaders of our nation and that they must have the good will of all the people. We pray for our President, the Governors of the States, and all legislators and executives in law, commerce, labor, education, philanthropy, and religion. We also pray for the entire citizenship of our land, and for all homes and places of business. May God be duly recognized everywhere and the spirit of kindly helpfulness and fraternal comity prevail among all nations. Thus only can suspicion, bitterness, and enmity be expelled and there dawn that better day of faith, sympathy, and hope, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all good life.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: THE SYMPATHIZING GOD

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
—Matthew 7: 7, 8.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. . . .

To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles;

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Thursday]

they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.—Isaiah 40: 1-5; 25-31.

O Lord, help us to have a deeper view of Thy unfailing goodness. We are often tempted to question Thy love, especially when difficulty attacks us and sorrow visits us. We murmur and grow restless and impatient, and feel that we are unjustly treated. But such conclusions are due to our shortsightedness. We do not take time to consider that much of the distress of the world is due to man's ignorance, sinfulness, and carelessness. We personally may be free from particular blame, but as we are members of society, we are called to share what of it is good and evil. Enlighten us, O God, to a sense of social responsibility and may we realize that it is as each one does his share that evil and wrongdoing can finally be removed. Let us be conscious of Thy guiding hand and comforting presence and not become weary or faint-hearted, but hold firm to Thy counsels, obtain the uplift of prayer and follow close after the Lord Christ, whose sympathy and benediction are the joy and rejoicing of our lives. We pray not only for our family, that we may have these blessings, but for every family, that we may all make the eternal God our Refuge and know that underneath are the everlasting Arms, to sustain and strengthen and sanctify us, for His name's sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: SINCERITY AND UNITY

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
—Matthew 7: 7, 8.

Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.—Matthew 6: 1-8.

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.—Matthew 18: 19, 20.

Teach us, O Lord, how to pray with gladsome confidence. Thou dost not consider the many words, but the earnest spirit and the sincere motive. We do not have to flatter Thee with our wordy speeches nor tire Thee with noisy petitions. In the matter of prayer, may we follow the practice of our Master. In the early morning, before the distractions of the day, and at even, after the labors of the day, He sought Thy presence and received refreshment and repose. He was thus able to meet difficulties without fear, to perform His duties with faith and to carry with Him the atmosphere of spiritual fragrance. Let us always see to it that our heart is fixed trusting in God, and that our life is hid with Christ in God. With such an experience, we can dispel anxiety, acquire firmness, become love-worthy, and honor Thee with our substance and in all things. We thank Thee that Thou hast not failed us at any time and we pray that the spirit of trustfulness and trustworthiness may give the right tone to our life. May we find that through prayer, closed doors can be opened, hard tasks accomplished, heavy burdens borne, and character made the better for the discipline. Keep us in Thy love, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: ASSURANCE FROM EXPERIENCE

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
—Matthew 7: 7, 8.

I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.

Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.

Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me,

I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O Lord, thou knowest.

I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.

Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O Lord: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me.—Psalm 40: 1-11.

Truly, a mighty fortress is our God. In the hour of temptation and struggle, Thou hast come to the relief of Thy people and they have praised Thy name for the enduring goodness of Thy grace. We join with the ransomed in celebrating Thy benefits. The divine promises have increased our courage and we have been strengthened to overcome sin. Implant Thy Spirit of freedom more deeply in our heart, that we may delight to do Thy will and scorn whatever is unworthy of Thy truth. May we be alert to obey Thee with the promptness of the angelic hosts, that Thy will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. Look upon us, members of a family, who offer to Thee the worship of gratitude. Remember all who are absent from us and guide them towards a closer walk with Thee. Bless every home in the land. Be specially gracious to those who are bearing the weight of sorrow and may they be sustained by the consolations of the Gospel of the living, the loving, and the lifting Christ. May we all continue in the patience of faith, in the endurance of hope, and in the practice of love, until the day dawns and these shadows flee away.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE LIGHT OF LIFE

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me; for he was before me.

And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

THE GLORY OF CHRIST

[4th Week
Sunday]

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.—John 1: 1-18.

O God of light and truth, we bless Thy name for the revelation granted to the human race at different times and in many ways. The light of conscience has been a faithful guide, showing men what they should do. The light of reason has enabled us to consider the meaning and purpose of life. The light of nature has shed glory on the order and beauty of Thy fair creation. All these are but broken lights and they who have followed them have walked in the tantalizing twilight, with imperfect vision, uncertain understanding, and insecure peace. The full light of Thy grace and goodness has come in Jesus Christ, who has also brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel of redemption. We glorify Thee for this full and final revelation, which truly satisfies the deepest instincts and desires of the soul. May we accept Him as our Saviour from sin. May we follow Him as the Teacher of truth. May we honor Him as the Lord of life, and seek from day to day to walk worthily of Him and for His sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: OUR STANDARD

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling:

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.—Philippians 2: 1-13.

THE GLORY OF CHRIST

[4th Week
Monday]

We rejoice in Thee, O God, our Maker, Redeemer, Defender, and Friend. May Thy wisdom give us confidence. May Thy pardoning grace bring us peace. May the divine guidance grant us assurance. May Thy presence impart to us security and happiness. May we always think of Thee with gladness of heart, and be constantly controlled by the mind and spirit of Christ. Keep us free from stain of sin and eager to follow the law of kindness in the way so beautifully shown by our Master. Bless all who are near and dear to us, and teach them the way of goodness and truth, that they may walk therein. We pray for all who profess the name of Christ, that they may honor Him by honest thought, sincere word, and love-worthy deeds. Thus will the unbelieving world be rightly impressed and turn to Thee, who doeth all things well. Hear us in these our evening prayers, both for ourselves and for our loved ones, far and near, and for all who love the Lord Jesus in genuine sincerity and live by His grace and for the honor of His name.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: THE IMPARTIAL GOD

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:

Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.

To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that

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[4th Week
Tuesday]

on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.
—Acts 10: 34-48.

O God, our Refuge and Redeemer, we come to Thee at the close of a busy day and confess our faith in Thee. Give us the contented mind and show us that we can best please Thee by doing our work honestly and earnestly. It does not have all pleasant features. The strain of routine becomes irksome; the petty trials and annoyances are burdensome; the drudgery is wearisome. But the thought of Thy presence with us in the common and daily tasks is gladsome. Teach us that we are called to glorify Thy name whatsoever we do, whether it be great or small. May we recall the ministry of Jesus, which was spent among ordinary people, some of whom were dull and stupid. But His heart of love saw beauty, health, and happiness; and He brought these desirable blessings to them. Those who accepted Him found that their troubles and disturbances passed away and that they were strengthened for the duties of the hour. The benefit of such an experience is available for each one of us. May we receive it and grow stronger and live in the name of Him who went about doing good.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: THE CHRISTIAN HOPE

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule, and all authority and power.

For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, All things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. . . .

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.—I Corinthians 15: 17-28, 58.

THE GLORY OF CHRIST

[4th Week
Wednesday]

Glory be to Thee, O God, the strength and inspiration of all who are true and pure. In every age and land Thou art known, and peoples have found in Thee the precious cordial for their hearts. Faith blooms and hope flourishes and love bears fruit among those who walk uprightly. Thou dost not leave any one in the darkness, for Thou art light and the giver of life. We are certain of the universal reign of Christ, when evil and bitterness will give way to goodness and kindness, and the God of love be supremely exalted. Give us grace to be loyal to the living Lord, Jesus Christ our Saviour, and grant us to be steadfast as we build on the one foundation which can withstand the tests of time and tide and make us finally acceptable in the presence of the divine glory. Forgive us our sins, keep us in the way everlasting, and sustain us by the comforts and inducements of the blessed hope. What we ask for ourselves we also seek for all Thy people everywhere, in the dear Redeemer's name.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: THE UNITING CHRIST

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

But now, in Christ Jesus, ye who sometime were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord:

In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.—Ephesians 2: 11-22.

THE GLORY OF CHRIST

[4th Week
Thursday]

We praise Thee, O God, for the plan of redemption and for Thy gracious purpose that no one should perish, but that all should come to a knowledge of Thy truth and enter into fellowship with Thyself through Jesus Christ. He is the world's Saviour and the only Unifier of the nations. He is the Prince of peace and through Him those who are estranged from one another can be restored to friendship. We pray that the leaders of the nations may reckon seriously with Jesus Christ and that His mind and spirit may influence national and international relationships. May the Golden Rule be accepted as the standard by which all peoples would guide themselves in these days of rebuilding the world out of its ruins. May the Church have a clear vision of its duty and opportunity, in the light of Thy redemptive grace, that all its activities may accordingly bring blessing to the whole world. Guide the missionaries as they build up a Christian civilization in pagan lands, and may the time come when Christ shall be honored by all mankind.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: THE POPULAR CHRIST

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people.

And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

And when even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land.

And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.

But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.

And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

For they considered not the miracle of the loaves; for their heart was hardened.

And when they had passed over, they came into the land of Gennesaret, and drew to the shore.

And when they were come out of the ship, straightway they knew him,

And ran through that whole region round about, and began to carry about in beds those that were sick, where they heard he was.

And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the

THE GLORY OF CHRIST

[4th Week
Friday]

border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole.—Mark 6: 45-56.

We rejoice, O Lord, in the knowledge of Jesus Christ as our Saviour. What a satisfaction it is that we need not be confused concerning duty and destiny, if we follow His clear and compelling precepts. He is the Way, the Truth, the Life, and He always comes to our relief at the right time. We pray this evening for those who are in distress, that they may find from our Master the blessedness of relief. May the divine presence be vouchsafed to them, so that in the storm they may hear Thy voice of cheer and be made strong to endure the strain. Let Thy blessing of peace enter every home. May anxiety cease as loved ones are committed to Thy care. May doubt disappear by a deepening of faith in Thy power to save and guide. May courage come with the assurance of Thy ample sufficiency for every emergency. Be gracious unto us and let the light of Thy countenance ever be upon us. May we all understand the mission of Christ and offer to Him the allegiance of devotion, that we may be generous helpers of the weak and courteous to all, for Christ's sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.—Matthew 11: 28-30.

We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth. . . .

For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they

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[4th Week
Saturday]

be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist:

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.—Colossians 1: 3-6; 9-18.

We give Thee hearty thanks, O Lord God, for the fullness of redemption which Thou hast wrought through Jesus Christ. The doors have been opened wide into spiritual liberty and the way of peace is clear. We rejoice that Jesus is the great Reconciler and Mediator. Those who accept Him need not feel strange to one another, because they are impelled by the same motives, even the constraining love of Christ. May He be given the central place in the life of every Christian. May His Spirit be the controlling influence in the midst of the Church. May His truth give guidance to the leaders of the nations of the earth. May He be considered intelligently and favorably by commerce and industry, by education and philanthropy, by the home and society. The character of the new day which is upon us must be determined by the ideals and principles of Jesus Christ. May He receive the preeminence that rightly belongs to Him. Hasten the time of His universally acknowledged supremacy, and to that end may we all be found faithful, for Thy name's sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling;

Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.

But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully. . . .

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.—I Timothy 1: 5-8; 12-17.

Thanks be to Thee, O God, for the Gospel of salvation, with its good tidings of great joy to the whole world.

THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION

[5th Week
Sunday

Wherever it has gone, wonderful changes have been wrought in the lives of men, women, and children. The darkness of sin has been dispelled; hatred and cruelty have ceased; kindness and friendship have begun; the home has been redeemed and blessed; society has been established on a firm and fraternal basis. We gratefully bless Thy Name because these gracious influences have been exercised from age to age and in every land. We pray that the Gospel may be proclaimed to the ends of the earth and in a more thorough way than it has ever been done. Thus only can there be produced the finest types of character and the world become the dwelling-place of peace. Let the light of Thy love shine with a clearer brightness in all our hearts, and help us to become examples of courage, honor, and steady devotion to the best. May the day of rest be a means of grace, well used by Christian people to extend the truth and praise of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: THE FRIEND OF SINNERS

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.

And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

And he spake this parable unto them, saying,

What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.—Luke 15: 1-10.

Thou art truly the God of all the earth, and Thy grace has abounded towards all. We thank Thee for the inestimable gift of Thy Son and for His life of sympathy

and service in the days of His flesh. Every one was glad to be in His company, because He treated them with kindness and consideration. The needy found in Him a real Friend, who understood them and appreciated their difficulties and encouraged them to do better. What He was under the Syrian blue, He still is through His Spirit at work in our midst. However far any may have wandered from Thee, they are not beyond Thy mercy. Let not a single soul feel lost and without hope, since we have such a strong Saviour. May those who are weary and troubled find peace in Him. May the godless give up the error of their ways and turn to Him who will receive them with a hospitable welcome. Give us more of the spirit of confidence that the lost can be recovered, and may every Christian who knows the grace of the Saviour help to bring Him within the reach of those who know Him not, that they also may have the joy of the Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: THE DETERMINED SAVIOUR

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.

And, behold, there was a man named Zaccheus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.

And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him; for he was to pass that way.

And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zaccheus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.

And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

And Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.—Luke 19: 1-10.

O merciful God, who art the support of the desolate and the abject, we bless Thy name for the divine goodness which leadeth to penitence and purity of life. Those who have discovered that Jesus is interested in them have found that life has a new meaning to them and that its worth has increased a hundredfold. It gives us much comfort

THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION

**[5th Week
Tuesday]**

to remember the winsome ways in which our Lord appealed to different classes of people and created in them a sense of dignity and responsibility. Those who were regarded as hopeless were touched and quickened, and they roused themselves from their listless and reckless courses to accept the offer of God's pardon. Teach us that there are wonderful possibilities in every soul, when kindled by divine grace. May we never think of any one as hopeless, so long as Jesus is able to save completely every one who comes to Him. Bless those who work in the slums of the city and among the outcast in our own land and on the mission field, and may their labors of love yield large results, in the name of Him who is the never-failing Saviour.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: A CONVINCING ARGUMENT

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men,

THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION

[5th Week
Wednesday]

they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.—Acts 4: 1-14.

Thou who dost bring light out of darkness and order out of confusion, we come before Thee, O Lord, at the close of another day, to express our thankfulness for Thy mercies. In every age and clime Thou hast been sought with diligence, and worship has been offered to Thee with sincerity. Such service has been acceptable to Thee, more especially when it found expression in deeds of sobriety, charity, and benignity. We bless Thee for the great teachers who expounded the way of truth, according to their light and understanding. Their imperfect and insufficient ways were completed by Jesus Christ, who proclaimed the fulness of the divine love and holiness, and enforced the same in His illustrious life. May this Gospel of a perfect and sufficient redemption be made known in all the world, until its benefits are experienced everywhere. May the work of the Church increase in quality and effectiveness, at home and abroad, in the coming years, so that we may all have a larger share of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: GOOD OUT OF EVIL

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

And the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely:

Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.—Acts 16: 22-33.

We thank Thee, O God, for the way Thou dost guide Thy people. It is not always in pleasant paths that they have walked nor in comfortable circumstances that they have lived. Their experiences have frequently been beset by difficulties and hindrances, but they were able to overcome adverse situations because they realized Thy presence with them. This is the secret of all real success. We therefore pray Thee that our faith may give us strength for every duty, that we may be upright and patient, true and faithful, contented and yet eager for advance according to Christ. Teach us that the Gospel is for every walk of life, and that we best honor Thee when we show ourselves superior to the distractions and dissensions which make so much trouble in the world. Enlighten the leaders of the nations, as they plan for the coming years, and also enlighten the people that they may follow in the open ways which lead to peace and blessedness, through Jesus Christ, the Captain of our salvation and the Leader of the hosts of light.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: PEACE WITH GOD

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also; knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son; much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.—Romans 5: 1-11.

Gracious art Thou, O God, and patient in all Thy dealings with the sons of men. We think of the purpose of the Christian life and remind ourselves that its influ-

ence has always been uplifting. Blessings have come wherever Christian men and women have received their privileges in Christ and have performed their duties. We pray that, in these days of turmoil and change, we may not lose sight of the fact that the better day can come only as we let the love of Christ control us. May Thy people see in the pressing needs a challenge which is also an opportunity, and may they accept the same with zeal and enthusiasm. May Thy peace take such full possession of our lives that we may be known by the practices of reconciliation and kindness in every walk of life. We pray that the Spirit of Christ may regulate all the affairs of the nations until sin is wholly destroyed, and the glory of God rests upon the whole earth. May the divine good will become human good will, so that the virtues of Christian character may appear in bountiful measure everywhere through Jesus Christ, the Lord and Master of us all.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: THE RANSOMED THRONG

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.—John 3: 16, 17.

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.—Revelation 7: 9-17.

We praise Thee, O God, whom to know is life eternal,

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Saturday]

for the rich bestowments of Thy love which have come to us in an unceasing flow. As we think of all that we have received from Thee, in spite of our unworthiness and ingratitude, we wonder that Thou dost continue to show mercy. We then remember that Thou art ever wont to pardon iniquity and to forgive the transgressions of Thy people, for Thou art a God of compassion. These generous ways have been justified, for those who were neglectful and obstinate were brought to penitence, obtained pardon, and were renewed in their affections and actions. Such triumphs of the divine goodness are an encouragement to us all. We beseech Thee, quicken us to a lively sense of our responsibilities, enable us to practice integrity and piety, and to be faithful all our days. Give us the spirit of exultant thanksgiving enjoyed by the redeemed of all ages, that it may strengthen, cheer, and guide us. Write Thy law within our hearts and may we show allegiance to that new covenant which has superseded merit by grace and shed abroad the Redeemer's love by His sacrifice on the Cross. May the preaching of the Gospel tomorrow bring many into the light and enable us all to preserve by the bond of peace, the unity of the Spirit of our Saviour Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: PRIVILEGES OF WORSHIP

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!

My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.

Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.

They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.

For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.—Psalm 84: 1-12.

In Thy name, O Lord of life, we have already saluted the day of rest and gladness and have availed ourselves of its holy opportunities. It comes as a necessary pause in the ceaseless round of a busy week and we are sum-

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Sunday]**

moned to consider our ways, to purify our motives, to recuperate our strength, to enrich our fellowship with Thee, and to live on the higher levels of thought, purpose, and deed. We thank Thee for the church services and what they have meant to us in the past. We recall the myriads of worshipers who have found peace and joy in the seasons of worship in the sanctuary. May we continue to turn our way regularly and eagerly to the house of God, and join in the hour of worship with praise and meditation and prayer. May Thy ministering servants be richly endued and equipped, that their guidance in worship and their counsels in preaching may be attended by responsive spirits and bring forth abundant fruit to Thy honor. May the multitudes of worshipers who assemble in their sanctuaries always find God and have a better understanding of the joys of service, for which they have been inspired in Thy house. Thus make us all strong to carry our daily burdens, to think kindly of others, to make the best of our circumstances, knowing that the joy of the Lord is our strength and satisfaction.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: GLADSOME WORSHIP

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.—Psalm 122: 1-9.

We bless Thy name, O Lord, for the abiding impressions of the services of the sanctuary and for their inspirational influences. We thank Thee that the Church constantly reminds us of the nobler qualities of life and encourages us to follow after the things that make for truth and purity. May the lessons of the Sunday continue their appeal throughout this week. When we are tempted and discouraged, let us recall Thy benefits to us and think of Thy precious promises and so become strong to resist the distractions of evil. Give Thy Spirit of holiness and truth to all the leaders of the Church, both clergy and laity, that

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Monday]**

they may successfully carry out the program of the Kingdom of God, to redeem and Christianize the world. We believe that this can be done as we undertake to build up Christian character, by making men and women steadfast in their devotion to the ideals of the New Testament. We believe that thus only could society become sanitary in moral, commercial, industrial, and social ways. Thus only could we hasten the day when nations will accept their mutual obligations and carry out their compacts, not under the pressure of force but under the impulses of fraternal responsibility, and in the name of the Son of God and Son of man. Hear and forgive us and give us grace always to stand the supreme test of fitness and faithfulness to Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: THE GLORY OF WORSHIP

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

And Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven:

And he said, Lord God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart. . . .

And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.

But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day:

That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place.

And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwellingplace: and when thou hearest, forgive. . . .

And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the Lord, he arose from before the altar of the Lord, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

Blessed be the Lord, that hath given rest unto his peo-

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Tuesday]**

ple Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.

The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us:

That he may incline our hearts unto him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers.—
I Kings 8: 22, 23, 26-30, 54-58.

We lift up our voice in praise to Thee, O Lord God, because of Thy gracious ways to all mankind. In every land, Thou hast been sought and found by earnest souls. The fulness of Thy light has, however, come through the prophets and seers, whose vision was perfected and fulfilled by Jesus Christ. May the spirit of true worship increasingly prevail in the world. Let knowledge grow and spread, to drive out the darkness of superstition; but let more of reverence in us dwell. So shall we understand and appreciate the fitness of things and by seemly behavior commend the honor of Thy name. Remove the indifference of Thy people and fill them with interest in the cause that purposes to redeem the world from sin in all of its terrible and tragic forms. May we enter more fully into the fellowship which enriches life. May we be guided by Thy promises which never fail and Thy precepts which never falter. May the deepening of our religious experience be accompanied by the practice of the gifts and graces of the Christian life, to the good of our fellowmen and the glory of the Redeemer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: WORTHY WORSHIPERS

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.—Psalm 24: 1-10.

O Lord our gracious God, Thy presence fills the earth and Thy glory is seen in the heavens. We praise Thee for admitting us to friendship and fellowship with Thee through worship, which calls out the divers expressions of thanksgiving, prayer, adoration, intercession, and resolution. We realize that our communion with Thee depends on the spirit and practice of integrity in word and deed. We thus show that our faith in Thee is genuine and our

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Wednesday]**

dealings with our fellows are without reproach. May we diligently cultivate such a behavior that our character may have the quality of goodness and bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, which are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, faithfulness. May we learn that our worship must pervade our whole life and be seen in heroic action and courageous fidelity to the best at any cost. May all who enter the place of worship give proof of the benefits which they have received, by a consistency that conscientiously harmonizes high profession with holy living. If the Church receives such zealous support, it will be able to enter upon a career of greater usefulness and serve the new age with the love of God through Jesus Christ, the Saviour of all mankind.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the Lord: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

Wash ye, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.—Isaiah 1: 11-18.

Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my first-born for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to

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Thursday]

love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?—Micah 6: 6-8.

Teach us, O God, that worship is the recognition and acceptance of what is worth while. When we praise Thee we show that we have a sense of real values and are determined to give first things their rightful place. May we cultivate the practice of personal prayer, so that when we come together our fellowship in Christ may have a richer quality and be more largely beneficial. The highest worship is not offered in isolation, but in company with others who are likeminded and with whom we have the feeling of spiritual kinship. May we also remember that Thou art the God of love and holiness, of beauty and purity, of order and justice. Our worship can then be acceptable only as we have these same virtues. Grant to all Thy people such an understanding of Thy mind, so perfectly made known in Jesus Christ, that we shall use the inspirations of public prayer and praise for the furtherance of the principles of brotherhood, in order that injustice, corruption, and crime shall cease, and there be seen an increase of righteousness and honor and equity throughout the world, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: PRACTICAL WORSHIP

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth.

Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.

For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the Lord made the heavens.

Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength.

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof.

Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice

Before the Lord: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.—Psalm 96: 1-13.

We confess, O God, that Thou art the Guide and Up-holder of our life. Thou art truly held in reverence by those who have found Thee to be precious in the seasons

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Friday]**

of strain. May the number of such pious ones greatly increase, that Thy praise may prevail in all the world. May Thy truth, as it has been made known in Jesus Christ, exercise a restraining and constraining influence among the peoples of the earth. Let all who engage in worship spread an atmosphere of spiritual fragrance in every community, so that the undertakings of business and pleasure, of government and philanthropy, may lessen the temptations and handicaps of society and make it easier for right dealings and honorable activities. May the Church see and seize the enlarging and multiplying opportunities to establish the rule of God among men. We pray for Christian union, that the several denominations may realize their underlying oneness in Christ, and federate their forces to serve the present age. We pray that the leaders of the Church may be enabled to communicate their vision, so that it shall be supported by the laity and the urgent task be performed, in the name of the common Saviour.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: ENCOURAGEMENT TO WORSHIP

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.—John 4: 23, 24.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.—Hebrews 4: 14-16.

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the vail, that is to say, his flesh;

And having a high priest over the house of God;

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised;

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.—Hebrews 10: 19-25.

We celebrate the gracious liberty into which Thou, O Lord, hast brought us through Jesus Christ. He has opened the way into Thy presence by the sacrifice of the Cross. May we who participate in the fulness of joy, by communion with Thee, continue to abide in the truth and

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Saturday]**

to advance therein, that we may be diligent hearers and faithful doers of Thy word. May we who believe in the value of assembling in the name of Jesus Christ for prayer, praise, and meditation give practical proofs of the benefits we receive from such exercises. We do not think of worship as a tedious discipline, but as an exhilarating privilege. May those who neglect this means of grace realize what they are missing of the needed encouragement and guidance for daily living. We pray for the faithful, that their confession of faith and hope may stimulate one another to emulate the virtues of the Gospel of love and to walk worthily of their high calling. Increase the zeal of Thy people, that there may be a deepening of the social passion to build up the Kingdom of our God. May the exercises held in the churches tomorrow be beneficial. Bless our own church—the minister, the official leaders, the membership, and our community; and may all that is done in our church and through it prove profitable, for the sake of Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE SUPREME BUILDER

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.—Psalm 127: 1-5.

Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways.

For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord.

The Lord shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel.—Psalm 128: 1-6.

We acknowledge that Thou, O Lord, art the giver of all good and perfect gifts. Thy sustaining grace is over all Thy works. We gladly confess Thee as our Father,

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Sunday]

whose guidance and governance have brought timely assistance to us in seasons of need. Vain is the help of man unless it is enriched by the blessing of God. Earthly prosperity is a delusion and a disappointment when Thou, O God, art ignored. Teach us that it is madness to try to eliminate Thee from our midst, for Thou art indispensable to our best welfare. May every member of this family, from the youngest to the oldest, realize the benefits of Thy providential direction and remain faithful to Thee under every circumstance. We pray for every family in the land, that true piety may abound. We especially beseech Thee to impart the comforts of Thy Spirit to those who are sad because of the loss of loved ones. May they learn that the sacrifices made in the troubled days of the War are agencies of God for the peace of the world. May this day of rest confer its benedictions on us all through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: A FAITHFUL MOTHER

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth;

For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever.

Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father.

And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.

And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

Having many things to write unto you, I would not

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Monday]

write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.

The children of thy elect sister greet thee. Amen.—
II John 1-13.

We thank Thee, O God of life, for Thy promises to all who put their trust in Thee. No one has ever been disappointed in coming to Thee. Indeed, they have always received beyond their expectations, and have been constrained truly to sing aloud the praises of our large-hearted Redeemer. Not every prayer has been answered, because the conditions were not wholly favorable. We think of the prayers of mothers for their sons and daughters and of the sacrificial service of motherhood. May the Spirit of God descend on the mothers of the world, that they may be strengthened by the knowledge that God who is their portion will always guide them. May their labors be fruitful seed in good soil, to yield harvests of plenty for the redemption of the race. Grant wisdom to young mothers in the nurture of their children. Give patience and insight to mothers of growing daughters, that the bond of sympathy between the two may grow stronger, and not weaker, with the passage of the years. May the noble character of motherhood remain a perpetual benediction and enrich every nation, in the name of the Son of Mary, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: THE FATHER'S PRIVILEGE

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord:

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.—Deuteronomy 6: 1-9.

Our trust is in Thee, O Lord, and we know from experience that our faith is well founded when it is so placed. Continue to be merciful to us and bless us. Let the light of Thy countenance shine in our home and may

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every one of us, present and absent, rely on Thy strong arm and be kept in the true way of grateful and joyful obedience. May Thy blessing be with all fathers, that they may realize their position of leadership in their homes and discharge their responsibilities, as the guide and companion of their sons and daughters. Let them intelligently reckon with God and seek the wisdom from above to make their homes the centers of Christian influence in the community. May the ties of comradeship between fathers and their sons react on one another not only for their mutual benefit, but also for the welfare of society and of the nation. We realize that the home must be given a more important place in the new age, and we pray that the Spirit of wisdom and truth may descend on the fathers of the world, in the name of the divine Fatherhood.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: THE FILIAL SPIRIT

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.

I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.

Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.—Proverbs 4: 1-13.

Thou art our Father and in Thee is our confidence and reliance. How glad we are that we do not have to think of Thee as a harsh tyrant, whose commands are the behests of cruelty. We think of Thee as the Redeemer-God,

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whose heart of love has provided salvation in Jesus Christ. This is the wisdom that has given honor and dignity to the sons of men. We are the children of God and therefore heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. But we must first share His sufferings in order to share His glory. Give us the grace of endurance that we may be loyal to the family of God, like the valiant souls who have served in Thy name in every country and whose number has not yet been exhausted. We bless Thee for those who in these recent years have given up their lives or have suffered for the cause of liberty and humanity. May their names be imperishable and may their works enrich succeeding generations. May the ideals of filial devotion be eagerly followed by every son and daughter, that they may be a comfort to their parents and a credit to their nation. Bless every home and school and church, that these institutions may render a larger service for the Kingdom of God and the honor of Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: HOLY MEMORIES

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance, that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

Who hath saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began;

But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.—II Timothy 1: 3-10.

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

And that from a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.—II Timothy 3: 14-17.

Thanks be to Thee, O God, for the healthy influences exercised by the religious home. Those who have breathed its atmosphere of devotion, culture, and refinement have gone forth to do honest service among their fellows. Thou hast been the unfailing source and strength of every noble impulse, pure purpose, and unselfish deed. The associations and memories of a home where Thou art honored have brought comfort and courage to all of its members. May the practice of piety fortify youth against evil temptations and strengthen them in self-mastery and integrity, that their character may have the sanity and sweetness of Jesus, who lived an exemplary life in His home in Nazareth. May Thy Spirit guide parents to instruct their children, that they may grow in wisdom and stature, enjoying the favor of God and man. May the church be supported with intelligent reverence. May religion be the inspiration of every member of the home, finding expression in worship at the family altar and in the general and particular behavior in all the affairs of daily activity both in the home and outside it. So may we take a full share of our obligations and blessings, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: A DUTIFUL LIFE

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked.
He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.

Blessings are upon the head of the just: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.

The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.

He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.

He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall.

The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.
—Proverbs 10: 1-12.

Thou eternal God of grace and purity, we think of Thee at the close of the day in a spirit of thankfulness. Thy mercies have never failed us. Thy guidance has truly led us. Thy presence has succored us. Indeed, everything we

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have received has come from a wise and bountiful Providence, and we are deeply appreciative of our indebtedness to Thee. We pray for those homes where the conditions are unfavorable and the children suffer from handicap, by reason of neglect, lack of right nurture, and exposure to temptations from coarse companions and demoralizing surroundings. May the institutions of corruption which make gain out of the miseries of the ignorant and the poor be cast out of society by the self-respecting and God-honoring citizenship. May legislation be rightly directed and applied. May we all realize that we are in part responsible for the evils and abuses of society. May our civic conscience be enlightened to do our duty fearlessly and faithfully. May the school and the church unite forces with the home for the forcible expulsion of iniquity and to make possible a situation where it will be harder to do wrong and easier to do right, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: A DEFINITE DECISION

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.—Psalm 112: 1-3.

Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord.

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;

For the Lord our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:

And the Lord drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the Lord; for he is our God.

And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the Lord: for he is a holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.

If ye forsake the Lord, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.

And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the Lord.

And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the Lord, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses.

Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord God of Israel.

And the people said unto Joshua, The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.

So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.—
Joshua 24: 14-25.

We thank Thee, O Lord our God, for the goodly examples of faithful men and women who had convictions of duty and the courage to utter them in words and deeds. Their influence abides in renewed lives from one generation to another. May the succession of worthy souls continue, and let the home do much in contributing to the well-being and welfare of all peoples. Let every Christian home be like a city set on a hill, that its light may radiate in the community and render the service of helpfulness in true neighborliness. We pray for the homes in the city, the suburb, and the country. May Thy presence be welcome in every one of them and let Thy peace abide therein. May both parents and children find joy, as they live according to the truth of the Gospel of Christ. We pray for the services to be held tomorrow in the large church, in the small chapel, and in mission rooms. Bless the preaching, whether it is under a roof or in the open air, and may the Name and Spirit of Jesus impart the fragrance of pure character to all needy and troubled souls, for the Redeemer's sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE HEART OF HOPE

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.—Hebrews 11: 1-10.

We magnify Thy name, O Lord, for the encouraging testimonies of those who put their faith in Thee and who were faithful to Thy word of truth. They found that faith is the very heart of hope and love. It separates fancy from reality, and establishes those who use it in the practice of the virtues and graces which adorn Christian character. Men and women in every condition of life knew Thee to be the God of sympathy and they were impelled to confide in Thee the more heartily because Thou didst share with them in their straits and struggles. Thus they won a place on the roll of heroism and their challenge to us is to do likewise, and to look past the fears of sense to Jesus, the strong and mighty Saviour. Make us worthy of this company and enable us to press forward to the higher attainments, in the assurance that it is better farther on. May all Thy people have this vision of freedom and fellowship. May their observance of the day of rest fit them the better to bear their burdens and to carry out their duties, in the strength of the companionship of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: A GLOWING CONFESSION

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.

And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven:

But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out

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into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.—Matthew 8: 1-13.

O Lord our God, may we be so fully convinced of Thy wisdom and power, as to trust Thee in the dark as well as in the light. Thou art the giver of good and perfect gifts, and all we have has come from thee, out of the unsearchable bounty of Thy love. Thy mercy and goodness have abundantly favored us, and we are daily mindful of Thy blessings. Let those who enjoy health think tenderly of the sick and afflicted. May those who are well provided with the good things of life consider sympathetically those who are denied even the necessities of life. Let all in need find in Thee such grace and forgiveness that they may become strong with the courage of endurance. Keep us all from the pestilence of sin that bringeth distress, and, whether by day or night, may we trust and not be afraid. So may we walk in Thy light and find gladness in the God of our salvation, who is faithful that promised, and who will never leave us nor forsake us at any time. May such faith stimulate us to honor Thee all the days of our life, through Jesus, our gracious and generous Saviour.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: QUIETNESS AND CONFIDENCE

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

Then said Jesus unto them again . . .

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.—John 10: 7, 11-16.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.—Psalm 23: 1-6.

O merciful God, praise be to Thee for the wonders of Thy grace and the greatness of Thy works. We behold Thy handiwork everywhere and we hear of Thy favors from all quarters. Both rich and poor speak of the timeliness and preciousness of Thy benefits. How fitting it is that the song of thanksgiving should ascend like the fragrant incense of the evening sacrifice! Keep us more steadfast in faith, more fervent in hope, more hearty in love. May we show forth the praises of our God, who hast done so mightily and mercifully for those who call upon His name—yea, even those who are unmindful of Thee have received more than their measure of benefaction. Purify our hearts that we may appreciate the tenderness of Thy care, the patience of Thy dealings, the kindness of Thy disposition, that we may become free from the anguish of anxiety, the depression of defeat, and the travail of trial. May our minds be so stayed on Thee that we shall always trust in Thee and be kept in perfect peace, from day to day, through the merits of the blessed Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: JOY AND PEACE

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. . . .

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

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Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Philippians 4: 4-13, 19, 20.

O merciful and gracious God, who looketh upon the sons of men with clear eyes and considerate spirit, we bless Thee because Thou dost treat everyone with open frankness. Thou dost not favor some and disregard others. All are equally precious in Thy sight: but Thou art specially pleased with those who regard Thee with faith and fealty. May we think of Thee, not with the fear of cowardice but with the fear of reverence and godly joy. Let us remember that salvation does not depend on the extent of our faith but on the fulness of Thy grace. We also know that those who are more receptive obtain a larger measure of the divine consolations. Forgive whatever in us is unworthy of Thee and may we always follow in the way of godliness, strengthened by our gracious Redeemer. We believe that the truth will prevail, but much of its success depends on the fidelity of those who profess Thy name. Quicken within us the spirit of fraternity and fair play. May the terrible sacrifices of the War not be in vain, but rather yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness, for the spread of love and liberty, in the name of our Elder Brother and Saviour.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him; and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

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But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.—Mark 9: 17-27.

Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove: and nothing shall be impossible unto you.—Matthew 17: 19, 20.

O God our Father, it encourages us to know that faith is the quality of trust and confidence found in every person. May we learn to use what we have, for thus only could we increase our supply. Let us not be afraid of the mountains of difficulty, because Thou dost provide for our needs, that we be not overcome and defeated. Since we have the benefit of Thy presence in the Holy Spirit, may we patiently and sincerely carry our burdens, and learn that the discipline is a means of grace for the culture of character. May it be our delight to share our mercies with others. May we help by thoughtful kindness and not hurt by thoughtless selfishness. Give us the clean heart, that we may have the clear vision and follow the conquering trail to the City of our God. May the Spirit of Christ inflame our hearts, that we may not be overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Guide us all in this home and may the God of peace be with us in our going out and in our coming in, from this time forth and for evermore.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: INHERITANCE AND POSSESSION

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. . . .

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence. . . .

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also, after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise,

Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

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And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.—Ephesians 1: 3, 7, 8, 11-21.

We cannot find language sufficient to express our thanks to Thee, O Lord God, for continuing Thy mercies to us with such boundless grace. We can never fully understand all that the coming of Jesus Christ has meant to us and to the world. Thine arm has never been shortened, nor has Thine ear been heavy, nor hast Thou withholden from us the help so fitting in the times of our need. Thou didst fly to our relief before we hardly turned to Thee. Indeed, Thy grace has gone before us and has accompanied us, so that we have come short of no good thing. In all the years we have been guided and sustained by Thee, and Thy promises remain steadfast in Christ Jesus. May we continue to learn the divine wisdom and grace, and to experience the manifold goodness and might of the Redeemer. May we be diligent in the pursuit and possession of truth, so that we shall abide under its wholesome influences and advance towards closer union with Christ and greater control by His Spirit. What we seek for ourselves may others also obtain and so find Thee to be gracious and precious, in Jesus Christ, the Beloved of God and man.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: A VALID TEST

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. . . .

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.—Psalm 16: 5, 6, 8.

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the

winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.—Matthew 7: 13-27.

O God of purity and power, Thou reignest supreme and art exalted in the midst of Thy people. Thy laws are steadfast, Thy purposes are unfailing, Thy promises are sure. Glory be to Thee, who commandeth the light to shine and to spread its healing rays o'er all the earth, to drive out darkness, to dispel gloom, to discontinue sin. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. May we always walk in the light which comes from Him and bring forth the fruits of right living. Enlarge our understanding, that we may show loving obedience. Increase the faith of all Thy people and grant them to realize Thy love and pity and tenderness. May the wisdom of God enlighten them, the truth of God liberate them, the redemption of God empower them, and the peace of God fortify them. May this Gospel be worthily proclaimed in all the world and prove its power by turning many from darkness into light. Make us all more fervent in spirit, that we may serve the Lord with filial freedom, and help each other in fraternal fellowship, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE CALL OF GOD

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1: 1-3.

Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.—Genesis 12: 1-5.

And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but

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thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee and to thy seed after thee.

And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.—Genesis 17: 1-8.

O Thou God of the faithful of every age and nation, we bless Thy name for Thy faithfulness unto them. No good word in any of Thy promises has ever failed of fulfilment. What Thou hast promised that Thou hast performed, wherever and whenever Thy people have observed the conditions of loyalty. It is truly encouraging to think of Thy patience, Thy forbearance, Thy guidance, so liberally given to every generation. What Thou hast been in former days that Thou still art in these latter days. Thou dost not change, but continuest the same, and the riches of Thy grace are limitless. Grant us the spirit of devotion and may our confession of faith be consistent with our conduct of faithfulness. Thus only can we prove the merit of Thy boundless love, and benefit from the might of Thy wondrous holiness, and witness to the wealth of Thy redeeming mercy in Jesus Christ.

“God of our fathers! Be the God
Of their succeeding race.”

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: MARTYRS OF FAITH

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1: 1-3.

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. . . .

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthah; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. . . .

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Monday]

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.—Hebrews 11: 23-27; 30-34; 13-16.

Blessed be thou, O Lord, for the men and women of vision, who pointed the way to the heights heroic, and who traveled towards these sunlit summits. They were martyrs in that they witnessed a good confession in genuine allegiance to the triumphant truth of the living God. We bless Thee for godly homes where such valiant souls were nurtured and guided by parents who were farsighted and devoted. May the home continue to be such a help in our own day. May those who have sacrificed everything for country and humanity receive a double blessing and be comforted by the God of grace. Strengthen those in authority, who occupy positions of trust and responsibility. May their leadership establish peace among the nations; and let it be clearly understood that true peace is possible only where Thou art held in the highest honor. May the Spirit divine enlighten and empower us to reckon with Thee in every transaction, that we may be fruitful and abound, through the Captain of our salvation.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: THE SUCCESSION OF FAITH

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1: 1-3.

Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written

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Tuesday]

therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. —Joshua 1: 1-9.

O God of courage and blessing, we exalt Thy name because Thou hast provided so richly for our needs. When one leader lays down his burden, Thou dost raise up another to take his place, and the successor is often able to produce larger results because of the faithful pioneer work of his predecessor. Let no one take credit to himself as though his own arm brought him the success. May we always recognize that Thou art the upholder of every victor, and that no good has ever been accomplished without Thee. May we not lose heart when some pass on to their reward or remove to other places. As Thou didst guide them, so wilt Thou help us. Since the faith is powerless without the faithful and they are weak without Thy sustaining grace, may we summon all our ransomed powers to work energetically and enthusiastically for the success of Thy truth. May we rejoice in the universal Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of the whole race. Hasten the day when this gospel will be accepted by all the world, to the glory of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: CHALLENGE AND EXHORTATION

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1: 1-3.

And Samuel said unto all Israel . . .

Behold, here I am: witness against me before the Lord, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.

And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken aught of any man's hand.

And he said unto them, The Lord is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found aught in my hand. And they answered, He is witness.

And Samuel said unto the people, It is the Lord that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the Lord of all the righteous acts of the Lord, which he did to you and to your fathers.

When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the Lord, then the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

And when they forgot the Lord their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor,

and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

And they cried unto the Lord, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the Lord, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.

And the Lord sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelt safe. . . .

If ye will fear the Lord, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord; then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the Lord your God:

But if ye will not obey the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the commandment of the Lord; then shall the hand of the Lord be against you, as it was against your fathers.—I Samuel 12: 1, 3-11, 14, 15.

O Lord, we bless Thy name in the highest for the wisdom and power with which Thou hast endowed men and women, to live worthily of Thy truth and holiness, and become a blessing to others. They accepted Thy promises; they followed Thy counsels; they sought Thy honor; they stimulated faith in Thee by precept and example; and so they had joy and gladness. We remember before Thee those who are bearing the cross in sincerity and who are showing endurance as good soldiers of Jesus Christ. May the qualities of fearlessness and perseverance increase and abound among us in these days of special demands and difficult tasks. May the membership of the Church respond with consecration to Christ. May Christians bear their testimony to justice and truth in every walk of life and under all circumstances.

“O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor’s crown of gold.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER.

Thursday: THE GOAL OF GLORY

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1: 1-3.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. . . .

And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . .

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the

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Thursday]

moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.—Revelation 21: 3, 4, 10-14, 22-27.

Almighty God, it strengthens our faith in Thee to be reminded of the lives and deeds of Thy servants in all ages. The littleness of their knowledge was increased by their faith in the greatness of Thy love, and what they accomplished was due to the indwelling of Thy Spirit. May these things be a summons to us to continue faithful as we keep the blessed goal before us. May the universality of God's grace and the unity of life in Him be increasingly experienced in these days of transition. Guide the leaders who are called upon to meet the very trying situations. May they be supported by the rank and file of Christian people, without whose fidelity there cannot be real progress. May every Christian home become a center of inspiration for the Kingdom of God. May Thy comfort and blessing abound towards all who call upon Thee in sincerity and truth, and hasten the day of world-wide fraternity and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: CONFIDENCE AND ENDURANCE

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1:1-3.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. . . .

At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known,

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Friday]

and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—II Timothy 4: 1-8, 16-18.

O God, may the examples of fidelity kindle in us the determination to show a similar spirit at all times. Thou art our defense and our deliverance, and we praise Thee for all the help that we have received from day to day. May we always be alive to the joy of each day, with its toil and difficulty, its pleasure and success, its defeat and sorrow. May we always remember that every cloud has its silver lining, and that every condition has its compensations. May we then be diligent in understanding Thy will and devoted in doing it. When so many changes are taking place in the world and there is so much misery and distress, let us see that these have been caused by selfishness. Truly, the only sufficient cure is in Jesus Christ. May His Spirit control us and may we adhere to His standards. May we offer to Thee the sacrifice of work well done. Guide us in the choice of only those things that are pleasing to Thee. Be gracious to those who are in trouble and let Thy peace abide with us, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: THE TRUE RECOGNITION

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—Psalm 1:1-3.

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was a hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee a hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.—Matthew 25:31-40.

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Saturday]

Almighty Father, we give Thee hearty praise and thanksgiving for the heroes and heroines of history. We are not thinking only of those whose names are paneled on the pages of fame, but also of the still larger number who were counted faithful by Thee and who glorified Thee in the quiet and obscure places of the world. They were not recognized outside the immediate circle of their commonplace life. But the light divine shone in them and through them, and they brought blessing to those who came in contact with them. They were satisfied with the thought that they had done their best, according to their knowledge of Thy will; and they furthermore rejoiced because Thou wast so gracious to them. They were calm in danger, patient in trial, persistent in loyalty, and true to the last. They were thus given the right to enter into the eternal Kingdom of Christ. May we also be diligent to make our calling and election sure, by looking to Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of faith, to whom be glory for ever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE FRIENDS OF JESUS

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

These things I command you, that ye love one another. . . .

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you. . . .

These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.

At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. . . .

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Sunday]**

Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.—John 15: 12-17; 16: 12-15, 25-27, 32, 33.

Thou God of light and truth, may we continue in Thy grace and favor and always know that Thou art our defense and our deliverance. When danger threatens, let us keep calm, for Thou art our strength and protection. May we recall Thy deeds of power in former days and remember that what Thou hast done in the past is a pledge of Thy unceasing solicitude and love to those who confide in Thee. Increase our faith and let us assure ourselves that since God is for us and we are for Him, nothing can hurt us nor indeed can we suffer any serious loss. May we appreciate the discipline of sacrifice. Remove from our minds any thoughts of self-pity and stimulate us to enter through the open gates into the opportunity for joyous service. May the quiet of this holy day impart rest and refreshment, enlightenment and enthusiasm, knowledge and reverence to many people, so that they may be prepared to take their full share of responsibility in the home, the church, and society, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: ANXIETY AND FIDELITY

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.—Matthew 6: 22-34.

O God, Thou art truly the Helper of those who walk uprightly, and Thy guidance doth hearten those who earnestly seek Thy will. We thank Thee for Jesus Christ, the Friend of all people, and for His teaching, so full of encouragement to those who are anxious and cast down. Grant to us a deeper consciousness of His companionship, that we may be able to resist the temptations which beset us and overcome every form of evil within us and around us. May our thoughts, purposes, and actions be in accord with Thy counsels and commands, and may we rejoice in the fellowship of the light. We gather at the close of the day to remind ourselves of our many benefits and obligations, to confess our sins and shortcomings, to praise Thy goodness and mercy towards us, and to pray for greater discernment. Perfect that which concerneth us. Strengthen us in all goodness. Magnify Thyself through us. Make us worthy followers of Jesus Christ, to whom with Thee, O Father, and the thrice blessed Spirit, we render the hearty homage of our lives.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: LOVE AND CONFIDENCE

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

We love him, because he first loved us.—I John 4: 7-19.

O gracious God, our heavenly Father, we rejoice that Thy name has been given to us and that we are Thy

FEAR

**[10th Week
Tuesday]**

children, members of the divine family. May this truth find practical demonstration in our lives. Keep us from stain of sin. Let us not harbor evil thoughts and bitter feelings and may we not wander into forbidden paths. Give us the rest which means control and calmness of spirit. We need have no fear since Thou art by our side, with Thy counsels which give us direction and Thy promises which offer timely help. Give special grace to the faint-hearted and to those in distress. Be near the sick: may their spirits be tempered by Thy comforts and may they know of a surety that God will never fail them, whate'er betide. Let all people bless the Lord, for His praises are in all the earth, and the marvels of His grace are abundantly spread abroad in Jesus Christ, whose sympathy and skill as the Good Physician and the Strong Saviour have been experienced from shore to shore. Bless this home and guide us all, present and absent, in Thy love.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: THE SYMPATHY OF JESUS

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret.

And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased;

And besought him that they might only touch the hem

of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.—Matthew 14: 22-36.

Most merciful Father, Thou who dost control all thoughts and direct all actions, we pray Thee to bring our lives into subjection to Thy holy will. May we always consider and follow those things that are true and pure and excellent. So shall we become free from anxieties which weaken us and have the joy of the Lord, which is our strength. Teach us the secret of contentment and enable us to overcome all debasing desires. Keep us in health of body, in happiness of mind, in holiness of spirit. Accept our grateful praise this evening. Remember those who are cast down and who cannot see the sun for the clouds of sorrow and distress. Lead them out into the sunshine of Thy mercy, favor, and love, and may they find—as many have done in every age and clime—that sympathy, healing, and balm for every wound are in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Friend. May we rest in Thy keeping this night, and awake on the morrow to go forth to the duties of the new day, with glad and buoyant spirits, because we are guarded by the peace of God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: THE NEW LIFE

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

In the which ye also walked sometime, when ye lived in them.

But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.—Colossians 3: 1-17.

O God of grace, we thank Thee at the close of this day for all the blessings of goodness we enjoy. Give us the spirit of sympathy that we may think of others with kindness, rejoicing with them in their good fortune and sorrowing with them in their distress. Thus can we help to build up the brotherhood of charity, whose doors are open to all individuals and families who let themselves be guided by the will of Christ and influenced by the peace of Christ. May all bitterness, suspicion, and enmity be overthrown by the increasing growth of the spirit of forgiveness and forbearance. May we always remember that we are Christ's and let all our actions show forth His glory. What we thus seek for ourselves we also pray may be granted to the chosen of God throughout the world, until all mankind shall come into the fellowship of freedom in Jesus Christ and the world become the habitation of righteousness, peace, and joy, to the glory of God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: BLESSED ASSURANCE

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.

Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought.

For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.—Isaiah 41: 8-14.

But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour.—Isaiah 43: 1-3.

O Lord God of hosts, may our faith in Thee be strong, so that we shall never waver in the face of duty nor be

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**[10th Week
Friday]**

affrighted by difficulty. Let the purity of Christ make us pure, His wisdom enlighten us, His power strengthen us. So shall we be equipped and fortified, sustained and encouraged, to go on to know the Lord in the fulness and sufficiency of His grace, and to follow Him in the spirit of sacrificial devotion. Give us to see the glory of the Christian life that we may walk worthy of our calling. Teach us to set the Cause above renown, its honor above personal gain; and may we prize our membership in the brotherhood which binds the brave of all the earth. May we know that since our trust is in Thee our faith is well set, and nothing can really hurt us. May all who are fearful and sorrowful diligently cultivate the life that is hid with Christ in God. So shall we and they find the peace that passeth all understanding, the joy without alloy, and the love that endureth in and through Jesus Christ, the Strong Son of God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.—Psalm 91: 1, 2.

Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.

Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.

How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart. . . .

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

For evil doers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.—Psalm 36: 5-10; 37: 3-9.

Almighty God, we come to the close of another week and gather at the family altar with joy and gladness. Thou

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Saturday]**

hast not withholden any good thing from those who walk uprightly. Oftentimes we craved for certain things and were disappointed when they were beyond our reach. Give us wisdom and patience, that we may learn to value the things that are really good in life and to find satisfaction in them. Keep us in the path of dutifulness and let us understand that security and happiness come only as we continue to look to Jesus Christ, the Author and Perfecter of our faith. May we always be sure that we are seeking His will and that we are His followers in deed and in truth. Let us commend Thy grace in gracious ways, share Thy benefits in generous fashion, and magnify Thy holy Name in gladsome spirit. Bless the services of the sanctuary tomorrow and may the praises of the people inspire them to praiseworthy practices, to the glory of Thy bounty in Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE ALL-SUFFICIENT CHRIST

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10: 13.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

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Sunday]**

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

**If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it—
John 14: 1-14.**

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, who hath not left us to our own devices but hath opened the path of life to all believers. Thou hast promised us grace with guidance. Thy word is not only: "This is the way, walk ye in it"; but also: "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." Here then is the secret of true blessedness and it is ours for the asking, on condition that we eagerly and earnestly do Thy will. May we not be attracted towards what is merely easy and pleasant, but only to what is right and true. Enlighten and instruct our conscience, so that its guidance may harmonize with Thy will. We bless Thee that confusion can be avoided, only as we have Christ and His Spirit abiding in us. May the experiences of this holy day clarify our understanding, purify our spirit, vivify our will, and lead us in the way everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: LIGHT IN DARKNESS

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10: 13.

Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.—Isaiah 9: 1-7.

O God, Thou art wise and great, patient and true
No good word of Thine has ever failed. There have been
times when we could not understand Thy ways, and we
were tempted to question instead of to submit. But it

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Monday]**

the sequel of events, we have found out that we were mistaken, and that if we had had our way, it would have been grievous unto us. As Thou didst lead Thy people of old by a roundabout course for their own good, and finally brought them to their desired haven, so hast Thou done with us. Forgive our fretfulness and our ways of discord. Increase our faith and strengthen our trust in Thee. May we remember the years of the right hand of the Most High and consider Thy doings, and take courage for the days to come, in the confident assurance that this God is our God for ever, and He will be our guide even to the end. Accept our thanks as a family, and lead us in the pathway of those to whom Thou hast been gracious, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: GRATITUDE AND OBEDIENCE

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10: 13.

All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers.

And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.

Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the Lord thy God chasteneth thee.

Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.

For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

A land of wheat, and barley, and wines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;

A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.

When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.—Deuteronomy 8: 1-10.

O Lord God of mercy and grace, give us the seeing

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Tuesday]**

eye that we may understand aright our experiences through the years. Give us the listening ear that we may obey Thy precepts. Grant to us the responsive spirit that we may walk in Thy truth. Let us look with wonder at that which is behind us and be grateful for Thy remembrances. Teach us to see that all things work together for good to them that love God. May we rely on the all-varied wisdom of God, and, encouraged by what we have received in the past, may we look with wonder at that which is before us. Give us the endurance of faith and the patience of hope to follow the straight way, in spite of discomfort and difficulty. Let us go forward in the confidence that Thou wilt supply our needs, and that, whatever our condition, we shall be able to erect Ebenezer, our Stone of Help. May this be the experience of all who call upon Thee. May they abide and abound in Thy love, through Jesus Christ, assured that all things work together for good to them that love God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: THE WAY OF HOLINESS

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10: 13.

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.

Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

Then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.—Isaiah 35: 1-10.

And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God;

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Wednesday]**

we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.—Isaiah 25:9.

Praise be to God, the merciful, the generous, the all-suffering. We worship Thee at the close of this day and we magnify Thy name because with wisdom Thou hast directed our affairs. When we were blind to our opportunities and indifferent to our privileges, Thou wast wonderfully patient, and it was Thy forbearance that brought us into the light, where now we see clearly. Forgive our impenitence and pardon our offenses. Give us sensitive hearts, that we may receive the impressions of Thy Spirit and faithfully follow the divine leadings, offered to each one of us according to our several necessities. May our defeats bring deliverance, and may we learn that the mirage of disappointment can become a pool of refreshing fruitfulness. The way opened for the wanderer and the exile is plain, secure, and reliable; and they who travel it will assuredly arrive at their journey's end in peace. May we appreciate this privilege and accept it, and availing ourselves of its advantages, become acceptable to Thee through Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: THE PILGRIM SPIRIT

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10:13.

And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. . . .

And, behold, there are last which shall be first; and there are first which shall be last.

The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence; for Herod will kill thee.

And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.

Nevertheless I must walk to day, and to morrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem.

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the

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Thursday]

time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Luke 13: 22-27, 30-35.

O heavenly Father, we hardly need to be reminded that Thou art the source of all good and perfect gifts. And yet how apt we are to enjoy the gift without thinking of the Giver. Forgive us our negligent disposition and save us from spiritual slothfulness. May we watch and pray, that we enter not into temptation. Let fervor of spirit unite with promptness to duty. Give us presence of mind and ability to exercise self-control under all circumstances. Whatsoever we do, let it be done heartily as to the Lord and not unto men, not as time-servers, for the sake of appearance, but as the servants of Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from sin and make us His genuine followers, zealous of good works. Enrich the allegiance of Thy people in every land. Make them fearless in rebuking iniquity, and unite them in the bonds of loyalty to Christ, to labor unceasingly for the salvation of individuals and the Christianization of society and the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: MAGNIFICAT AND BENEDICTUS

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10: 13.

And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden:
for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath done to me great things;
and holy is his name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy;

As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever. . . .

And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

And hath raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;

The oath which he sware to our father Abraham,

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Friday]

That he would grant unto us, that we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear,

In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.—Luke 1: 46-55, 67-75.

We magnify Thee, O Lord, because Thy purpose has been one of redemption throughout the ages. To this end Thou didst lead Thy ancient people, without forsaking them, even when they were stiff-necked and disobedient. In seasons of sore distress, due to their reckless ways, Thou wast merciful and gracious. Thou didst raise up chosen leaders whom Thou anointed with Thy Spirit, to bring deliverance from the enemy, to teach Thy people the truth, and to guide them out of darkness into light. We bless Thy name for the prophets and saints of every clime, who were not only earnest seekers after God but enthusiastic preachers, whose stirring words and devout lives were a benediction to all. May the succession of these faithful ones be continued, and endue us with liberty that we may maintain the principles of righteousness and peace. Send out Thy light and Thy truth, that they may incite us to practices worthy of our high and holy calling, in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: TESTIMONIES AND TESTIMONY

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.—I Corinthians 10: 13.

Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!

Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.

I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Blessed art thou, O Lord: teach me thy statutes.

With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.

I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.

I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.—Psalm 119: 1-16.

O Lord God, may our hearts be fixed, trusting in Thee. So shall we be saved from confusion and misunderstanding, and find peace all the days of our life. When we feel

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Saturday]**

desolate and distressed, it is not because Thou hast withholden Thy presence from us, but because we have been too preoccupied and wrapped up in ourselves. And yet, Thou art our Sympathizer and Saviour. Forgive us our feverish and blundering ways, and recall us to Thyself. Thou hast in mercy redeemed us and never hast Thou failed to keep faith with those who seek Thy will. When in doubt, may we think of Jesus Christ, and let His Spirit work in us, to guide us into truth, to guard us from evil, to govern our lives in harmony with the mind of God. We thank Thee for the Bible, the inspired record of Thy dealings with the race and the illuminating revelation of Thyself through seers, saints, and apostles, and, above all, through Jesus Christ. May we become so familiar with its varied message, as to be built up in character and strengthened in behavior, worthy of our Redeemer God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: THE PERFECT SPIRIT

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.—I Corinthians 13: 1-13.

We rejoice, O Lord, in the revelation of Thyself in

Jesus Christ. We are especially grateful that Thou didst not make Thyself known through some moral code or a system of teaching, but through a life like unto our own. And yet how supremely superior is the life of Christ to anything that any person has ever achieved! He is so far above us in purity of soul, but yet so near us in sympathy of spirit. His holiness has made Him not exclusive but comprehensive; and He welcomes to Himself all and sundry, without regard to the artificial barriers which have been such a menace to society. He has moreover opulently shown us the real worth of love, the greatest of all virtues. Give us a larger measure of this gift, that we may excel as followers of our Master and win disciples for Him. May we be unselfish and generous, thoughtful and courteous, earnest and gracious, thereby commending the merits of the Christian life. May the spell of this day of rest remain with us during the week and enrich us with the peace of the indwelling Spirit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: THE CHRISTIAN EXTRA

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. . . .

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and

on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.—Matthew 5: 13-20, 43-48.

We bless Thee, our gracious Lord God, that the standards of Christian living are high and exacting. Herein we see a proof of Thy deep interest in us and of Thy confidence in us. Thou dost expect large things of us; and we are encouraged to respond by the thought that Thou hast provided richly for our needs from the boundless wealth of Thy vast resources. May we be worthy of Thy trust and may we fulfil our privileged responsibility with a sense of filial obligation to Thee and of fraternal obligation to all people. We realize that the joys and duties of the Christian life can be rightly interpreted only in actual living. May we make it our business to let the light of Thy love and truth shine through us. May our influence be wholesome, so that others may catch the infection of our Christlike character. We thank Thee for such an ennobling challenge, and we pray for grace to meet it with consecration and courage. Inform our understanding; inspire our spirit; invigorate our will; that always and everywhere we may hold up the splendor and sufficiency of Thy redeeming love in Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.

For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

Rejoice evermore.

Pray without ceasing.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Quench not the Spirit.

Despise not prophesyings.

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Abstain from all appearance of evil.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.—
I Thessalonians 5: 5-24.**

O Lord our God, Almighty Father and Giver of grace, we are glad of the Gospel, which proclaims that God is love. We recognize Thy power in the world of nature. We acknowledge Thy wisdom in the affairs of mankind. But it is in Jesus Christ that we clearly see the revelation of Thy might and mercy. Our souls are stirred within us as we think of the great sacrifice on the Cross and we are filled with gratitude and exultation. May our practice of communion with Thee, not only at the family altar but also in the quiet of our private devotions, give us the spirit of composure in the presence of trial and conflict. May we be further led to celebrate Thy goodness in a true-hearted, whole-hearted way, and show forth the praises of the God of wondrous salvation. May we experience the joys of giving and sharing with one another, not only in the home but also with our friends and neighbors and all in need, both in this land and in lands beyond the sea. And may we do it in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Wednesday: CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.—Romans 12: 9-21.

O God our Redeemer, we adore Thee for the gift of Jesus Christ, who has brought love to the light of day. His way is clear and profitable. There are sudden turns

and trying surprises, and the path is uphill all the way, from morn to night. But Thou art near us as our Guide and Companion, and we have proved that through prayer we can overcome all difficulties. May our faith be triumphant and our joy abundant, as we remember that our work is from Thee. However commonplace and irksome it may be, we honor Thee as we do it diligently, fervently, earnestly. Thus can drudgery become divine, and struggle be a sacrament, and difficulty a discipline. We pray that the Light within may shed its radiance without and dispel all darkness. We pray that the Love divine may be more glorious in its healing influence, through our union with Thee and with one another. We pray for the church outside the churches, that we and they may cease to regard each other as aliens, seeing we are at heart the lovers of Jesus Christ. May the communion of saints be more deeply and widely realized throughout the world, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: THE FULNESS OF CHRIST

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. . . .

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.—Ephesians 4: 1-7, 11-16.

We meet this evening to praise Thee, O blessed Lord,

for all that we have received from Thee and to offer prayer for the rightful performance of our several tasks. May we learn to know that it is not what we do but how we do it that gives distinction to our deeds and satisfaction to our souls. May the vision of Christian unity so captivate us that we shall gladly cooperate with all who name the Name of Christ, in spite of any sacrifice or inconvenience that might be involved. It is only as Christians are willing to be guided by the principle of self-denial that we shall be able to see the spread of the Gospel of salvation. May we always do our best and share with others in the joy of achievement. What matters it, whether we or they be used, so long as Thy name receives the honor and the brotherhood of Christ is extended! Establish us on the Rock and make us strong to endure. We leave ourselves in Thy gracious keeping for the night and would trust Thee for the coming day and forever, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: BEARING AND FULFILLING

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

For every man shall bear his own burden.

Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.—Galatians 6: 1-10.

We confess to Thee, O God, our failures and shortcomings, and we beseech Thee to pardon our offenses for Thy mercy's sake. Deliver us from evil. Purify and strengthen us in good. Prepare and fit us for helpful living. Use us wherever we can justify and magnify the law of Christ. May our behavior show kindness of disposition, and let there be no sharpness nor bitterness of

thought. May our faith in Thee enable us to have faith in others, that we may be patient with the offender and not hasty in judgment. Teach us to distinguish between the stain and the scar in the characters of people. May we not be rash in judgment or reckless in behavior. Give us more of the mind of Christ that we may be discerning and considerate. May His love enlighten and sustain us in all our dealings. What we ask for ourselves and our limited relationships, we also ask for all ranks and conditions of people. May peace prevail between men and nations, and progress be seen in the arts, comforts, and benefits of life, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: THE FINAL TESTING

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 34, 35.

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God: for it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

Therefore let no man glory in men: for all things are yours;

Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;

And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.—I Corinthians 3: 10-23.

Gracious Father, we meet at the end of the week to bless Thy Name for the joys and demands of the Christian life. We thank Thee that we live in a land of freedom, where the privileges of opportunity are open to every one. We believe that merit comes to its own, and that genius and industry obtain the prizes of life. We pray for the public school and for all colleges, universities, and professional schools in our land, that they may train our youth in ways that will prepare them not merely to make a living but to grow a life in fidelity and honor. We pray for the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations and other kindred societies which build character. We pray for the Governor and legislature of our State and for all who occupy positions of leadership within its bounds, including the civic, municipal, industrial, commercial workers of our own town. We also pray for every State in the Union, for the President and Congress, and for all associated in establishing law and order. May the entire citizenship of our nation be loyal to the limit of its ability, and may the churches cooperate and lead to make our great democracy a praise in all the earth, by becoming an increasingly faithful steward of benefits and blessings to every nation in need, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Sunday: WRESTLING AND WINNING

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8: 9; 9: 15.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. . . .

Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.—Ephesians 6: 10-18, 23, 24.

Eternal God, we pray Thee for courage to keep the Christian ideal before us and earnestly to follow it from day to day. We are aware that the Christian life is one of struggle against evil and that the path is marked by

difficulties. But Thou hast promised to be with us, and the banner over us is "Love divine, all loves excelling." Let us trust and not be afraid. Let us confide in Thee and not be cowardly. Let us follow Christ and not suffer sin to check our progress. Help us to be at our best in all our undertakings, knowing that Thou art honored in the small things no less than in the big things. May we remember that greatness is not measured by size and quantity, but by spirit and quality. Keep us at all times in the way of Thy precepts and promises. Unite all Christians in the bonds of common sympathy, so that their united obedience to Thy will may bring deliverance and peace to the nations of the world. May the virtues of this sacred day strengthen us for the duties of the week and may we find peace in the presence of Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Monday: SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8: 9; 9: 15.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. . . .

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.—Romans 8: 1-4, 12-18.

Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the eternal inheritance of spiritual freedom in Jesus Christ. Open our

hearts to the influence of the Holy Spirit, that we may have finer discernment of Thy truth and richer refreshment in prompt attention to duty. Strengthen our innermost being, that our thoughts may be pure, our desires right, our words clean, our deeds worthy of Christ. May we form helpful habits and indulge in honorable practices. May we think of the past with gratitude, of the present with diligence, and of the future with hopefulness. May we be ready to lend a helping hand to those in need, even at some inconvenience to ourselves. Forgive us our indifference and selfishness. Inspire us with kindness and sympathy. Direct us in the name of Him who went about doing good. Remove misunderstanding, suspicion, and discord, which so sadly obscure our ideals and visions, and which prevent us from advancing in richer friendship and fellowship with Thee. May the number of the faithful greatly increase, to the glory of Christ and the blessedness of the race.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Tuesday: UNITY AND GRACE

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8:9; 9:15.

And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. . . .

And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is;

Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled

with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.—Acts 4: 18-20, 23-33.

Lord God, holy and true, our hope is in Thee, who art our refuge and strength. When the waters roar and the storm rages, those on the ship rely on the skill of the captain. As we voyage through the sea of life, we acknowledge Thee, O Christ, as the Author and Captain of our salvation. All who have looked to Thee in straitened circumstances were helped, and not one was disappointed. In age after age and through succeeding generations, Thou hast generously imparted guidance and comfort, and they who were thus sustained were not afraid of the threatenings of opposition. Thou dost still stretch forth Thy hand to heal, and we rejoice in Thy pardoning and consoling grace. May all in trouble turn to Thee for relief, since Thou hast not only overcome the world, but art richly able to strengthen those who trust in Thee to triumph over evil.

“Lead on, O King Eternal,
Till sin’s fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet Amen of peace.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER.

Wednesday: CHRISTIAN MARTYRS

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8: 9; 9: 15.

And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ: to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evil doer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Wherefore, let them that suffer according to the will

of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.—I Peter 4: 8-19.

We glorify Thy Name, O God, for the many thousands who were faithful to Thee in the days of persecution. They answered the call and turned away from sin, to find in Christ mercy and forgiveness. They suffered bitter privations and were exposed to severe suffering for the sake of their faith. The enemy seemed to be all-powerful, and he never failed to do his worst to afflict and even destroy the chosen of God. Although the body was broken, the spirit of these martyrs and saints kept lighted the torch of truth, and the fires of enthusiasm were a quickening inspiration to those who came after them. In spite of the gloom of adversity, the clouds dropped fatness, and they were enriched beyond all human resources. They won out because they did not wage a warfare at their own charges, and their weapons were spiritual. The forces of darkness could not, therefore, prevail against them. Their fidelity was the good seed of the Kingdom of God, which has been yielding fruitful harvests during succeeding generations. May we receive their priceless legacy, with the firm resolution that nothing shall sway us from our purpose to be loyal to Jesus Christ. Enable us to go forward with courage and consistency for the glory of God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Thursday: DISCIPLESHIP AND DEVOTION

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8: 9; 9: 15.

The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.

It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?

Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.

What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. . . .

He that receiveth you receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a

disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.—Matthew 10: 24-33, 40-42.

Most Holy God, we thank Thee for the fearlessness of the Christian life. Those who trusted in Thee were assured that whatever befell them could not hide their vision of Thy love and purity. They were under Thy considerate care, and the power of evil could not master them so long as they kept in the line of obedience. Make us also strong in the time of testing. May we be trustful in the seasons of anxiety and mindful of Thy promises when discouraged. Truly, Thou art good, and Thy grace abounds towards all, especially to them who walk uprightly. When we are tempted to doubt Thy Providence, may we recall Thy mercy and kindness in the past and revive our confidence in Thy presence with us for guidance, now and always. Give us a generous outlook, and endow us with sympathy, that we may become messengers of Thy grace, to bring gladness to lives stained with sorrow and overcast by distress. May our Christian discipleship be proved by deeds. Our confessional will then be praiseworthy and profitable, and Thy Name shall have the glory, through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Friday: GOD'S COMMENDATION

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8:9; 9:15.

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead, according to my gospel:

Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:

If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:

If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.—II Timothy 2: 1-15.

Praise be to Thee, O eternal God, for the splendid examples of those who were steadfast because Thou didst make them competent to do the divine will. They thought of life as a sacred trust and an ennobling undertaking; and they summoned all their ransomed powers to bear a full testimony by seemly word and genuine deed. They rejoiced in Thy confidence in them, and so they sang in their struggle and were brave to bear their burdens. May we think of these consecrated hosts, who, through union with Christ, went on to perfection. Pour out upon us the Spirit of holiness and truth, that we may be devout in Thy Presence, devoted to Thy purposes, and determined to confess Thee in simplicity and singleness of life. Show us whatever is harmful and embarrassing, that we may cast it off and not become entangled in the petty prejudices and perverting passions which confuse our aims and prevent our allegiance. Forgive us the errors and misdeeds of this day, and grant us grace to continue in our career in the consciousness of Thy pardon, Thy presence, and Thy peace, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Saturday: BROKEN, NOT BEATEN

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. . . . Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.—II Corinthians 8:9; 9:15.

For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

While we look not at the things which are seen, but

at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.—II Corinthians 4: 5-18.

Heavenly Father, unite our hearts in praise to Thee for Thy mercies which are new every morning and which bring us to the close of each day with a sense of Thy peace. It has never been easy to encounter and overcome the deceptions of selfishness, but we are happy to know that where sin abounded, grace did abound more exceedingly. This reliance on Thy superior power is the true secret of triumph over every conflict. In this day of trying experiences, may we think of those who had no fear and who did not yield to temptation, but with patient perseverance kept in the way of truth and honor and secured for themselves the prizes of eternal life. Let us look up to Thee and have the radiance of joy. Then let us lift up others and lead them to the one foundation and only hope, whereby they may receive their portion of blessing and bliss from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation nor partiality. May the services to-morrow prove a means of grace to large numbers of people, to guide them in the way of peace and gladness through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

STRENGTH AND SUFFICIENCY

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.

The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.—Psalm 121: 1-8.

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The Lord hath done great things for them.

The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.—Psalm 126: 1-6.

O God our Help in ages past, we enter upon another year with gratitude to Thee for Thy many favors, with

NEW YEAR'S DAY

[*Special Days*
New Year's Day]

confidence in Thy supreme wisdom and gracious power, with determination to seek Thy will and to do it in the earnest consecration of love and loyalty. We confess the omissions and blunders of the past year, and we pray for Thy pardoning grace. As we review the events and happenings of the last year, we note that Thy providences have crowded our lives. Blessings innumerable have come to us, which we did not recognize at the time because our eyes were dim and our ears heavy. For the New Year, give us the clear serenity of vision, the fervent buoyancy of hope, the assuring conviction of faith. May the spirit of wonder and joy fill our lives, so that we may regard each day as a new opportunity, in which to show forth Thy praise in deeds of kindness and love. Give us the firm assurance that seed sown under difficulties yields rich harvests for our reaping. May we continue in prayer, grow in grace, increase in the knowledge of Christ, and multiply the fruits of truth and righteousness. Grant the divine favor to all Thy people, that, their lives being marked by renewed zeal and devotion, they may help to make this year the richest and best in all history, to the glory of Thy name in Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE COMING ONE

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13: 20, 21.

And it came to pass, when he was come nigh to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount called the mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples,

Saying, Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat: loose him, and bring him hither.

And if any man ask you, Why do ye loose him? thus shall ye say unto him, Because the Lord hath need of him.

And they that were sent went their way, and found even as he had said unto them.

And as they were loosing the colt, the owners thereof said unto them, Why loose ye the colt?

And they said, The Lord hath need of him.

And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon.

And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way.

And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen;

Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples.

And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.—Luke 19: 29-40.

PALM SUNDAY

**[Special Days
Palm Sunday]**

Almighty and Everlasting God, the Giver of life, in Whom we live and move and have our being, Thou hast drawn nigh to the sons of men in every age and Thou hast spoken through persons and events according to the understanding of the race. Thy best word was uttered in and by Jesus Christ, through whom we now have access into Thy presence. May we discern the mind of God as the blessed Master has revealed it, so that we may not be like the thoughtless multitudes or the prejudiced rulers of Israel, who turned away from the Chosen of God. May we be like that thoughtful company, who were not carried away by mere emotion nor controlled by darkening counsel but who took note of all the facts and gave to Jesus the royal welcome of grateful obedience and honest service. Such devoted souls have seen His day and rejoiced in its coming with light and liberty. Give us new visions of His greater glory as His Gospel of redemption is accepted among the nations. Nothing can stand in the way of its steady advance. May we not be afraid of the opposition of evil, but be strong to do Thy blessed will at any cost. Keep us steadfast and true and may we always be found in the way of Thy Son, our Saviour and Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE CROSS AND CALVARY

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13:20, 21.

And when they were come to the place which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar,

And saying, If thou be the King of the Jews, save thyself.

And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, This is the King of the Jews.

And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.

And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

GOOD FRIDAY

[*Special Days*
[*Good Friday*

And the sun was darkened, and the vail of the temple was rent in the midst.

And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.—Luk. 23: 33-47.

Thanks be unto Thee, O God, for Thy unspeakable gift, even the Son of Thy love, who offered Himself a sacrifice for our redemption. We recall the events that led up to Calvary, and we think of the sacrificial life of our blessed Saviour in the days of His flesh, as He went about doing good, healing disease and proclaiming the Gospel of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. May the appeal of the Cross drive away selfishness and meanness from our hearts and implant a spirit of honor and self-denying service. We accept Thee as the Suffering God, whose sympathy imparts strength, and the constraint of whose love exacts from us who are benefited thereby the prompt discharge of responsibility. We also acknowledge Thee as the Victorious God and pray that we may be consistent in fidelity to Thy truth.

May all who are Christians give practical proof of allegiance to Jesus, who suffered and was crucified that we might have life. May we convey the benefits of His passion to others as we walk in the way of the Cross. Enrich our experience of Thy redeeming and sanctifying grace and quicken us in every good word and work, that at all times we may show forth the praises of Him who hath called us into his marvellous light, to love and live through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE LIVING AND REIGNING CHRIST

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13:20, 21.

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.—Matthew 28:1-10.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus

EASTER SUNDAY

*[Special Days
Easter Sunday]*

Christ, who has given us the assurance of immortality and a foretaste of our heavenly inheritance through the Risen Saviour. On this day we join with multitudes of believing people in celebrating Thy glorious triumph over sin and death. Just as the disciples came out of the darkness of Good Friday into the splendid light of Easter, so may we always remember that depressing and tiresome experiences pass away or can be endured, only as we welcome Thee in our midst, always to abide with us. May the truth of the Resurrection of Christ send out rays to illumine faith, to quicken hope, and to stimulate love to the farthest bounds of earth. May our confidence in the Living One be strengthened, our hope of His coming glories be vitalized, our love of God and man be increased, as we realize Thy presence from day to day, in the communion of prayer and service. Speak the word of comfort and peace to all who sorrow, and may their sense of loss become endurable by the thought that their beloved are safe with Thee, in the land of eternal love and light. Keep us faithful through all our life, by the merits and triumph of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE FINAL VICTOR

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13:20, 21.

Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. . . .

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the vail, that is to say, his flesh;

And having a high priest over the house of God;

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised;

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another:

ASCENSION DAY

[*Special Days*
Ascension Day]

and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
—Hebrews 10: 8-14, 19-25.

Heavenly Father, we glorify Thee for the victorious life of Jesus Christ, who completed His mission in triumph and is now crowned with glory and honor, at the right hand of the Majesty on high. We celebrate a Saviour who was thorough in His work for us men and for our salvation. We are glad to know that His ascension to the celestial glory, whence He came from the Father, does not separate Him from his followers, but has really brought Him nearer to them in spiritual communion. While we proclaim Thee, O Christ, as the universal Saviour, there yet remain large tracts of wild and treacherous wastes to be redeemed. And this must be done by us who confess Thy Lordship. Deepen the fountains of our life and may we be rooted and grounded in love divine, that our character and behavior may extend the righteousness and rulership of Christ, even to the uttermost parts of the world. May the nations definitely and seriously reckon with Jesus Christ. Let them all see that the world's sore needs can be adequately supplied only as He is taken into consideration. May we all accept and advertise the wonders of redeeming grace, until the earth shall be filled with the purity and peace of the Ascended and Enthroned One.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13:20, 21.

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. . . . These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.—John 14:15-18, 25, 26.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. . . .

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

WHITSUNDAY

[*Special Days*
Whitsunday]

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel:
And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God,
I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons
and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men
shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will
pour out in those days of my Spirit: and they shall
prophesy. . . .

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call
on the name of the Lord shall be saved.—Acts 2: 1-4,
14-18, 21.

Thou God of light and truth, who hast given a right
understanding to Thy faithful people and enabled them
to live in the obedience of love, we bless Thy Name for
continuing these favors through succeeding generations.
May the same Pentecostal Spirit who enlightened and em-
boldened the apostles of old give to us also His Presence,
that, our thoughts being cleansed by the illumination and
inspiration of the Holy Spirit, our hearts may be kindled,
our judgment correct, and our wills inclined towards
Thee. So will our lives find comfort in the living Christ
and yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness to Thy
great glory. May the Spirit Divine exercise a deeper and
fuller control, that there may be unity in diversity among
Christians, and their talents and achievements may further
the best interests of the world, in art, science, knowledge,
commerce, politics, legislation, and international inter-
course. Guide our ways and works in the church, the
home, and society, that in all things Thou mayest receive
the preeminence in Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

A VIRTUOUS WOMAN

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.

She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.

She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night.

She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.

Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

MOTHERS' DAY

[*Special Days*
Mothers' Day]

She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.—Proverbs 31: 10-28.

We lift up our hearts to Thee, O God, and remember the many mercies which have enriched our lives up to this present. Thy lovingkindness and plenteous redemption have wrought marvels for us and the thought of them gratifies and encourages us. We thank Thee today more especially for the religious home and what it has done to bring sweetness and strength into life. The devoted services and sacrifices of motherhood have indeed been the secret of much that is worthy in the home. Grant Thy richest blessing to every mother, that she may rely more fully on Thee and receive wisdom and courage, patience and endurance to order aright the ways of her children. We also pray for the fathers, that they may rejoice in the privilege of responsibility. Look on every home where sorrow has entered, and may the peace of Thy Presence bring the comforts of the Gospel to those who are sad and anxious. Guide back any erring sons and daughters from their prodigal ways, and lead the filial onward in the name of the Son of Mary, our Saviour and Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE SACRED PAST

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work thou didst in their days, in the times of old.

How thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and plantedst them; how thou didst afflict the people, and cast them out.

For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them.

Thou art my King, O God: command deliverances for Jacob.

Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us.

For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.

But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put them to shame that hated us.

In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever.—Psalm 44: 1-8.

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.—Psalm 19: 7-10.

Thou Mighty God, who hast commanded and effected

MEMORIAL DAY

[*Special Days*
Memorial Day]

deliverances for us, we lift our voices, in praise to Thee, as we remember Thy mercies towards us. Today as we recall the deeds of valor and heroism of our forbears in the testing times of the Civil War, we bless Thee because Thou didst not fail them. They counted nothing too dear in the performance of their duty to uphold the sacred principle that right makes might. They were firmly persuaded that the rights of the people must be maintained at any cost, and they finished the work with success because they were guided by the ideal of malice toward none, with charity for all, and with firmness in the right as Thou gavest them to see the right. We celebrate the fidelity of those at the front and of those who remained behind to keep the home fires burning. We appreciate their sacrifices and we realize that the progress made by our nation since those days of turmoil has been due to their triumph of national unity. We also remember the heroic souls in what, please God, may be the last war in the world. May our courage rise to the present occasion of many demands in a spirit of patriotic devotion, leading us to do our utmost to realize more fully that ideal, where government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall increasingly flourish in our own nation, and be spread among all the nations of the world, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE NATION'S SYMBOL

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;

Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;

Remember all thy offerings, and accept thy burnt sacrifice;

Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.

We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners: the Lord fulfil all thy petitions.

Now know I that the Lord saveth his anointed; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand.

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.

Save, Lord: let the king hear us when we call.—Psalm 20: 1-9.

Lord God, Mighty Ruler of the universe, we praise Thee for the power and majesty, the glory and wisdom, the goodness and love, Thou hast exhibited among the sons of men. We can say with humility and confidence that Thou hast shown signal mercies to our nation. We do not regard these blessings as tokens of partiality, but as reminders of responsibility. We bless Thee that our flag is the symbol of those noble and humane principles which have made for liberty, justice, and happiness. It is also

FLAG DAY

[*Special Days*
Flag Day]

the symbol of national unity, national idealism, national service. We think of the background of white as the symbol of purity of character; of blue as the symbol of loyalty which holds the nation in solid unity; of red as the symbol of sacrifice shown all through the nation's history, down to our own day, in the war happily ended. Wherever our flag has gone, the rights of mankind have been maintained and tyrannies have trembled. We pray that it may continue to float over a free and faithful people; and that wherever it is flung to the breezes, in whatever clime, it may be recognized as the symbol of redemption. Help us, that our purity of purpose may be genuine, our loyalty of spirit earnest, and our sacrifice of life hearty, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

I will publish the name of the Lord: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

He is the Rock, his work is perfect; for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not the spot of his children: they are a perverse and crooked generation.

Do ye thus requite the Lord, O foolish people and unwise? is not he thy Father that hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee?

Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.—Deuteronomy 32: 3-7.

Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.—Psalm 78: 1-7.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

[*Special Days*
Independence Day]

O God of nations, we think of the history of the world as a series of ordered advances, making for progress through conflict and sacrifice. If we think of Thee as the God of our nation, it is not in any exclusive sense. We acknowledge the advantages we enjoy by reason of our extensive and fruitful domains. We can never forget that they were secured for us by labors which involved self-denial and bloodshed. We honor those who enlisted in the struggle to establish those humane principles which conserve the inalienable rights of all mankind to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The patriots strove for the ideal of self-government without the interference of tyranny, and they succeeded in obtaining the benefits of a free people. As we recall the exploits of the Thirteen Colonies and the fidelity of succeeding generations, we pray that we may be able to show an unstinted measure of devotion to the best interests of our country. May we also respond to the needs of the nations broken by war and may we do all in our power to bind up their wounds, to feed and clothe them in their destitution, and to enable them to find the soul of democracy and to cherish it, for the emancipation of themselves from despoilers of every sort. Give us all the true international spirit which will prevent any more wars and establish the brotherhood of man, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

UNITED CHRISTIAN TESTIMONY

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13:20, 21.

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthah; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

Of whom the world was not worthy: they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;

ALL SAINTS' DAY

[*Special Days*
All Saints' Day]

who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.—Hebrews 11: 32—12: 2.

We thank Thee, O God, for the sacred memory of the saints, who walked life's common ways and shed a luster in obscure homes and in small places. They won blessing for themselves and became a blessing to others because they conquered self, and cherished thoughts of love for Christ, and confirmed their loyalty by the ministry of kindly service. They were unknown to fame yet well known to Thee, in whom they rejoiced, and by whom they were inspired for all true living. Since they loved Christ and lived for Him, we think of them without reference to clime, creed, or color. We pray that this test of Christ-like character may mean more in these days. May Christians be united in the bonds of sympathy and common service, so that emulation may take the place of contention and competition. May the honor of Christ and the pressing needs of the world be regarded as more important than the customs of tradition. May charity, generosity, magnanimity, and courtesy be always shown, in the name and for the sake of our one and only Master and Lord, to whom with Thee, O Father, and the thrice blessed Spirit, be honor and glory, world without end.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

THE GOOD GOD

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.

They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.

Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.

Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.—Psalm 107: 1-9.

The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion.

For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath blessed thy children within thee.

He maketh peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat. . . . Praise ye the Lord.—Psalm 147: 11-14, 20.

O God of majesty and mercy, we adore and magnify Thy reverend Name for the innumerable benefits enjoyed by us as a people. It is a collective memory that takes us back to the Pilgrims and their serious purpose to worship God according to the dictates of their enlightened

THANKSGIVING DAY

[*Special Days*
Thanksgiving Day]

conscience. Their celebrations were hearty and sincere and they laid strong foundations with prophetic vision. We remember with gratitude the sacrifices of the Revolutionists to maintain the right of self-government and the freedom of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We recall with gratitude the struggles of the Civil War for the principle of government of the people, by the people, for the people, which is the basis of a united nation. We bless Thee for the signal triumph of Right over the tyranny of militarism and for the noble part recently played by our nation to secure peace for the world and a guarantee that the future shall never again be stained by the tragedy and desolation of war. Truly, our lot has been cast in memorable times. May we not regard our blessings as a matter of course, but consider them as a legacy to be enriched for the benefit of coming generations. May we show piety, courage, and neighborliness in the discharge of our duties; and to this end we consecrate our lives, in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

CHEER AND COURAGE

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.—Hebrews 13:20, 21.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David,)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, *Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing*

CHRISTMAS DAY

[*Special Days*
Christmas Day]

which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.—Luke 2: 4-20.

We praise Thee, O God, for the meritorious grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Saviour, whose coming has brought untold benefits to the whole race. Today we celebrate Thy supreme gift to us and we bless Thee for its exceptional worth and bountiful preciousness. The song of the angels has girdled the world and its echoes are heard in many a life. We bless Thee for this Gospel of the Incarnation which declares that Thou from the highest didst come with the deliverance of love to man, at his lowest, in every condition of life. We are glad to know that responses have come from all classes of people, who acknowledge their allegiance to Christ the Lord. We pray that this message of redemption may have a still larger appeal, and that the peace of God may be universally welcomed in sincerity, earnestness, and gratitude. Enter every home with a special Christmas blessing, and may it be sanctified to every member of the family, present and absent, so that the bonds of love may unite every one for nobler and better living, in the dear Redeemer's name.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

ANOTHER MILESTONE

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, and Amen.—Psalm 72: 18, 19.

Lord, thou hast been our dwellingplace in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. . . .

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. . . .

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. . . .

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. . . .

O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.—Psalm 90: 1, 2, 4-6, 10, 12, 14-17.

We give Thee hearty praise, O Lord God, for bringing us to the close of another year, and we confess our faith in Thee by declaring: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST

[*Special Days*
December Thirty-first]

The year has been one of lights and shadows, of pleasure and privation, of success and failure. Thou hast been with us in our joys and sorrows, and we have been enabled to endure by the grace of the faithful and considerate Guide, who has not failed us. Forgive us the errors and omissions of the year and continue to us Thy bounty for the New Year. We know not what a day may bring forth, much less what the New Year has in store for us. But Thou art the same and so we put our trust in Thee, praying that we may go forward into the unknown future, without fear or anxiety. Strengthen the faint-hearted, deliver the desolate, comfort the sad, encourage all to renew their vows, to lay hold on Thee, and to abide under the shadow of the Almighty, in the confident persuasion that to them that love God all things work together for good in Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

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